

BY: Senator THOMAS

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim November 1, 2023, as Kannada Language and Rajyothsava Day in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body, in keeping with its time-honored traditions, to recognize and pay tribute to those who foster ethnic pride and enhance the profile of cultural diversity which strengthens the fabric of the communities of New York State; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim November 1, 2023, as Kannada Language and Rajyothsava Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Kannada Language and Rajyothsava Day; and

WHEREAS, Kannada is a language spoken by millions of people across India's southwestern state of Karnataka and around the world; and

WHEREAS, As one of the oldest languages that is still spoken today, Kannada has unique etymological formations and is the language of culturally significant literature and inscriptions dating back thousands of years; and

WHEREAS, On November 1, 1956, the state of Karnataka in South India was formed, and each year, the date is celebrated as Kannada Rajyotsava, a public holiday dedicated to the unity of all Kannada-speaking or Kannadiga-people; and

WHEREAS, Members of New York's Kannadiga community have made numerous contributions to every aspect of society, and play a vital role in keeping Indian heritage and culture intact while enriching the state's cultural diversity; and

WHEREAS, In 1972, the Kannada Koota New York organization was founded, to promote the Kannada language, art, culture, and heritage through cultural programs; and

WHEREAS, Kannada Koota New York is an organization that still acts as a connecting tissue between Kannadigas from Karnataka and those residing in the New York area; and

WHEREAS, On November 1, 2023, the State of New York joins Kannada Koota New York and Kannadiga people across the state in celebrating the numerous contributions, rich culture, heritage, and diversity of the Kannadiga community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim November 1, 2023, as Kannada Language and Rajyothsava Day in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York.