

BY: Senator THOMAS

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim April 2023, as School Library Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize official months that are set aside to increase awareness of initiatives which affect the lives of citizens of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim April 2023, as School Library Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National School Library Month; and

WHEREAS, National School Library Month was established by Lucille Thomas in 1985, to help schools and their local communities celebrate the library and in particular the major role school library programs play in transforming learning; and

WHEREAS, The quest for knowledge and achievement by students is stimulated and developed through the use of educational resources and instruction provided by school library programs that are staffed by professional certified school librarians; and

WHEREAS, School library programs provide the means for students to gain cultural understanding and enhance global communication skills; and

WHEREAS, Lifelong learning begins and is systematically developed through the school library curriculum of the elementary and secondary schools; and

WHEREAS, The school library program contributes to the individual growth and development of all students, while fostering both excellence and equity in education; and

WHEREAS, School library programs teach the skills of effectively locating and ethically using information through traditional resources and new technologies to provide literature appreciation activities and to guide and encourage informational and recreational reading to every student; and

WHEREAS, School libraries provide materials that will develop literary, cultural, aesthetic appreciation, and ethical standards; and

WHEREAS, The school library program helps students learn to find texts on any topic of interest across a range of complexity, so they are engaged at a level that is challenging to them; and

WHEREAS, School librarians teach students to inquire, think critically, draw conclusions, make informed decisions, and create and

share knowledge in preparation for advanced study and the workplace; and

WHEREAS, It is both fitting and proper that special recognition be given to school library programs and the role of certified school librarians in education throughout the State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim April 2023, as School Library Month 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.