

BY: Senator THOMAS

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim
October 2023, as Hindu Heritage Month 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, The citizens of this great Empire State are proud to recognize and commemorate Hindu Heritage Month, an observance which celebrates the contributions of Hindu practicing people to New York State's unique heritage; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim October 2023, as Hindu Heritage Month in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Hindu Heritage Month provides a platform for Hindus around the world to come together to highlight their rich cultural and religious legacy, and showcase their achievements; many Hindu festivals like Devi Navaratri, Vijayadasami, Deepavali, Vikrama, Samvatsara and Skanda Shashti, fall during this month; and

WHEREAS, Hinduism is the third-largest religion in the world with more than one billion followers worldwide of which four million live in the United States; and

WHEREAS, New York State's vibrant Hindu American community has contributed tremendously to the vitality of the State and enriched the lives of its citizens; Hindu Americans have made positive contributions in science & technology, business, politics, and spirituality; and

WHEREAS, During the month of October, the Hindu American community will collectively celebrate its heritage by focusing on its culture and the diverse spiritual traditions rooted in India; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body to recognize those important months which remind us of the rich and diverse heritage of our great State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, It is suitably fitting that all New Yorkers join in these important celebrations of one of our State's most vibrant communities; this much anticipated observance and its accompanying activities will foster greater appreciation for Hindu culture and serve to promote the spirit of cooperation that is characteristic of all citizens of New York State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim October 2023, as Hindu

Heritage 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.