

BY: M. of A. Gibbs

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim
June 7-13, 2023, as Heart Rhythm Week in the State
of New York

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

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim June 7-13, 2023, as Heart Rhythm Week in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of World Heart Rhythm Week; and

WHEREAS, Organized by the Arrhythmia Alliance, World Heart Rhythm Week is a chance for people across the globe to take part in the world's biggest awareness campaign about arrhythmias and the importance of understanding our heart rates; and

WHEREAS, Arrhythmias, also known as cardiac arrhythmias, heart arrhythmias, or dysrhythmias, are irregularities of the heartbeat, which include conditions where the heartbeat is too fast or too slow; and

WHEREAS, Tachycardia is used to describe heartbeats that are too fast, above 100 beats per minute in adults, and bradycardia, which refers to a significantly slow heart rate below 60 beats per minute; and

WHEREAS, Ventricular fibrillation is the deadliest heart rhythm during which your ventricles quiver with your atria, thereby, hindering blood supply throughout your body, including heart muscles; and

WHEREAS, Symptoms may include palpitations or a feeling of a pause between heartbeats, however, certain types of arrhythmias have no symptoms; in more serious cases, lightheadedness, passing out, shortness of breath, or chest pain, among others, may occur; and

WHEREAS, The vast majority of arrhythmia cases are readily managed and cured, though some individuals have complications such as stroke or heart failure, and sometimes death; arrhythmia can also occur in children, and regular smokers are prone to it; and

WHEREAS, Over the past four decades, there has been significant progress in efforts to understand and manage cardiac arrhythmias; the combination of programmed electrical stimulation of the heart with intracardiac activation reading and recording was an important development in this effort near the end of the 1960s; and

WHEREAS, This procedure helped in the localization of the exact site of the obstruction in the atrioventricular conduction system in patients suffering from bradycardia and the identification of the original site

and the mechanism of supraventricular and ventricular tachycardia; and

WHEREAS, Everyone experiences arrhythmia at some point in their lives; while it may be harmless for those free of heart disease, some irregular heartbeats can be serious or fatal; and

WHEREAS, One-fifth of all arrhythmic deaths are sudden and unexpected; the most important issue remains focusing on the prevention of the occurrence of these unnecessary deaths; and

WHEREAS, There are many ways for individuals to get involved, from getting their heart examined, donating to the cause, making time for more physical exercise, to learning more about the condition and sharing their knowledge with others; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater public awareness of this devastating medical condition and more must be done to increase activity at the local, state and national levels to promote screening and support patients and their families; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim June 7-13, 2023, as Heart Rhythm Week in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, and to the Arrhythmia Alliance.