

BY: M. of A. Zebrowski

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim October 29, 2023, as Furniture and TV Tip-Over Prevention Awareness Day in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim October 29, 2023, as Furniture and TV Tip-Over Prevention Awareness Day in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of Furniture and TV Tip-Over Prevention Awareness Day is to bring awareness and help educate New Yorkers about the potential dangers of unsecured furniture, TVs and appliances in homes where children live, visit often, or are cared for, and to encourage parents and caregivers to take proper precautions to prevent tip-over accidents; and

WHEREAS, October 29 is being designated as Furniture and TV Tip-Over Prevention Awareness Day in loving memory of the birthday of Harper Fried, a 3-year-old Hudson Valley girl who tragically died as a result of a tip-over accident; and

WHEREAS, HarperSmiles Inc. was created following this tragic accident; the mission of this noble organization is to educate, inspire and motivate parents to secure furniture and prevent tip-over accidents; and

WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission ("CPSC"), an estimated 25,500 people were treated annually in U.S. hospital emergency departments for product instability or tip-over injuries related to televisions, furniture, and appliances from 2017 through 2019; and

WHEREAS, Since 2000, there were 581 deaths related to product instability or television, furniture, and appliance tip-overs, according to the CPSC; and

WHEREAS, According to a CPSC study, when a television falls from an average size dresser, it can fall with the force of thousands of pounds, or a force 10 times more powerful than an NFL lineman; and

WHEREAS, Families can eliminate furniture, TV and appliance tip-over accidents by using sturdy furniture designed to hold TVs; mounting TVs on walls; securing furniture, particularly top-heavy furniture, TVs and appliances to walls using simple safety devices such as braces and straps; and by removing tempting objects for children from the top of TVs and furniture; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body encourages all New Yorkers, particularly parents and caregivers with young children, to take these simple, low cost steps to prevent tip-over-related injuries and deaths; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim October 29, 2023, as Furniture and TV Tip-Over Prevention Awareness Day in the State of New York, and to express its most sincere condolences to the families who have lost children as a result of tip-over accidents; 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.