

Senate Resolution No. 1389

BY: Senator PERSAUD

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim April 2026, as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commemorate and increase awareness of issues that are of significance for the citizens of this great Nation and Empire 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 2026, as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Sexual Assault Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, Sexual assault and sexual harassment harm our communities, with statistics showing that nearly every minute, an American is sexually assaulted, and every nine minutes, that victim is a child; and

WHEREAS, Only twenty-five out of every 1,000 perpetrators will end up in prison; and

WHEREAS, 423,020 people, aged 12 years and older, experience sexual violence each year in the United States; and

WHEREAS, 54% of sexual violence victims are aged 18-34; 63,000 children are reported to have been sexually abused every year; and

WHEREAS, One in six women in the United States has experienced attempted or completed rape in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, One in 33 American men have experienced an attempted or completed rape in their life; and

WHEREAS, 82% of underaged rape victims and 90% of adult rape victims are female; and

WHEREAS, 68.5% of sexual assaults occur at or near the victims' homes or their relatives' homes; 23% of sexual assaults occur in open public places; 8.5% of sexual assaults occur on school properties or other locations; and

WHEREAS, We must work together to educate our communities about sexual violence prevention, supporting survivors and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions which condone sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, When we actively get involved we can prevent sexual violence by increasing education, awareness and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, It is time to create a safer environment in the workplace,

the community and the world for all; and

WHEREAS, April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and each day of the year is an opportunity to create change for the future; and

WHEREAS, Sexual assault is a horrific act of crime which deserves the attention of this Legislative Body; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to pro-claim April 2026, as Sexual Assault Awareness Month 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 New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault.