Assembly Resolution No. 1267

BY: M. of A. Lunsford

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 2026, as Melanoma Awareness Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 2026, as Melanoma Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Melanoma Month; and

WHEREAS, The American Academy of Dermatology has designated National Melanoma Month to raise awareness about skin cancer; many events have been planned focused on skin health, sun safety, tanning prevention, and skin cancer screening and resources; and

WHEREAS, Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States, and Melanoma is one of the most common cancers in young people under 30, especially in young women; and

WHEREAS, Melanoma can appear on any area of the body, including the eyes and internal organs; and

WHEREAS, Often the first sign of Melanoma is a change in the shape, color, size, or feel of an existing mole or the appearance of a new mole; and

WHEREAS, 86 percent of Melanomas are caused by solar ultraviolet (UV) rays; and

WHEREAS, To prevent Melanoma, it is recommended to avoid using tanning beds, excessive exposure to the sun, especially between the hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., when its rays are the strongest, and to wear sunglasses, wide-brimmed hats, long-sleeved shirts, and pants; and

WHEREAS, Regular daily use of an SPF 15 or higher sunscreen reduces the risk of developing Melanoma by 50 percent; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body affirms its commitment to promote an environment which supports and encourages vigorous research activities, and the institutions engaged in those activities, to further skin cancer research; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body also reaffirms its commitment to foster efforts directed at the advancement of detection, diagnosis, and treatment of Melanoma; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 2026, as Melanoma Awareness 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.