

Assembly Resolution No. 1525

**BY:** M. of A. Rules (Levenberg)

**MEMORIALIZING** Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim  
May 31, 2026, as No Tobacco Day in the State of New  
York

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim  
May 31, 2026, as No Tobacco Day in the State of New York

**WHEREAS,** It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize  
official days that are set aside to increase awareness of 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, this Legislative Body is justly proud to  
memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 31, 2026, as No  
Tobacco Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance  
of World No Tobacco Day; and

**WHEREAS,** World No Tobacco Day is observed around the world every  
year on May 31st; it is meant to encourage a 24-hour period of  
abstinence from all forms of tobacco consumption across the globe; the  
day is further intended to draw global attention to the widespread  
prevalence of tobacco use and to negative health effects; and

**WHEREAS,** The Member States of the World Health Organization created  
World No Tobacco Day in 1987 to draw global attention to the tobacco  
epidemic and the preventable death and disease it causes; and

**WHEREAS,** Tobacco use remains the leading cause of preventable death  
and disease in the United States, killing more than 480,000 Americans  
each year; and

**WHEREAS,** Second-hand smoke is an established cause of lung cancer in  
non-smokers, and exposure to second-hand smoke in the home is a  
significant cause of respiratory ailments in children, and Sudden Infant  
Death Syndrome; and

**WHEREAS,** The growing e-cig/vaping epidemic has swept the country,  
and 45,000 public high school students in NYC reported e-cig/vape  
product usage in 2017, which can lead to negative health outcomes; and

**WHEREAS,** Short-term health risks of tobacco use include shortness of  
breath, increased heart rate, exacerbation of asthma, impotence,  
infertility and increased blood levels of carbon monoxide; long-term  
health risks caused by tobacco use include heart attack, stroke, cancer  
and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; and

**WHEREAS,** No Tobacco Day 2026 aims to: highlight the links between  
the use of tobacco products and heart and other cardiovascular diseases;  
increase awareness within the broader public of the impact tobacco use  
and exposure to second-hand smoke have on cardiovascular health; and

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 31, 2026, as World No Tobacco Day in the State of New York, and to encourage all its citizens to participate by not starting to smoke, by attempting to stop, and by encouraging others to do the same; 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, and Public Health Solutions Smoke-Free NYC.