

BY: M. of A. Woerner

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim January 2026, as Blood Donor Awareness Month in the State of New York

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

WHEREAS, In 1941, under the leadership of Dr. Charles R. Drew, the American Red Cross began the National Blood Donor Service to collect blood for the U.S. military; and

WHEREAS, In 1948, the American Red Cross opened the first regional blood center of its kind to serve civilians in Rochester, New York; and

WHEREAS, Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood; and

WHEREAS, A sufficient blood supply is critical to being able to provide timely care for all patients in need of lifesaving blood transfusions; and

WHEREAS, The American Red Cross is the primary provider of blood products in 46 counties in New York State; and

WHEREAS, Blood Services offered by the American Red Cross serve more than 100 hospitals and cancer treatment centers in New York State; and

WHEREAS, Last year, the American Red Cross collected approximately 234,000 units of blood in New York State; and

WHEREAS, Thousands of volunteers help to support the more than 10,000 blood drives held each year throughout New York State; and

WHEREAS, The number one reason donors say they give blood is because they want to help others; and

WHEREAS, These selfless volunteers have helped to save the lives of millions of Americans by donating blood, plasma, or platelets; and

WHEREAS, Blood Donor Awareness Month is a time to recognize all those outstanding individuals who have contributed so much to the advancement of blood donation, most particularly, to acknowledge and express our deepest gratitude to those who donate their blood for their extraordinary generosity in giving the gift of life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim January 2026, as Blood Donor 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.