

BY: M. of A. Durso

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim February 13, 2026, as P.S. I Love You 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 serious mental health 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 February 13, 2026, as P.S. I Love You Day in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, P.S. I Love You Day, this year celebrating its 16th Anniversary, is held annually on the second Friday of February in over 100 communities across New York State; and

WHEREAS, P.S. I Love You Day was initiated in 2010 by founders Jaimie and Brooke DiPalma, along with their family and the West Islip High School Class of 2014, to celebrate the memory of their father and anyone in the State of New York who has been lost to suicide; they used the last three words their father said to them, "I Love You," as the inspiration for this significant day; and

WHEREAS, An active member of his community, Joseph DiPalma, Jr. was a former NYPD officer, ex-Chief of the West Islip Fire Department, and President of his Local Chamber of Commerce; tragically, he passed away on April 23, 2010; and

WHEREAS, P.S. I Love You Day invites all New Yorkers to wear purple on February 13, 2026, to bring awareness to the importance of mental health, to stand up to bullying, and to spread kindness; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater awareness of serious mental health conditions, and more must be done to increase activity at the local, State and National levels; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim February 13, 2026, as P.S. I Love You Day 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 founders, Jaimie and Brooke DiPalma.