

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 20-26, 2016, as Pollinator Awareness Week in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize official weeks that are set aside to increase awareness of serious 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 Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 20-26, 2016, as Pollinator Awareness Week in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Pollinator Awareness Week; and

WHEREAS, In 2007, the United States Senate unanimously designated a week in June as National Pollinator Awareness Week; and

WHEREAS, Pollinators are in trouble; many are seeing decreasing populations because of habitat loss, disease, parasites and pesticide use; and

WHEREAS, Pollinator Week marked an important step toward addressing the urgent issue of declining pollinator populations; and

WHEREAS, Pollinator Week has grown into an international celebration of the valuable services provided by bats, bees, beetles, birds and butterflies in protecting the ecosystem and food supply; and

WHEREAS, There are over 450 species of wild bees in New York State and more than 100 of these contribute to apple pollination in the Northeast; and

WHEREAS, Pollinators are responsible for one out of every three bites of food we eat; and

WHEREAS, Pollinators bring us countless fruits, vegetables and nuts and half of the world's oils, fibers and raw materials; and

WHEREAS, Pollinators help produce plants that prevent soil erosion and remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater awareness of this serious issue, 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 Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 20-26, 2016, as Pollinator Awareness Week in the State of New York, in conjunction with National Pollinator Awareness Week; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York.