

**BY:** Senator HOYLMAN

**MEMORIALIZING** Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim May 5, 2018, as Free Comic Book Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Free Comic Book Day

**WHEREAS,** It is the honor and privilege of this Legislative Body to recognize the historic significance and creative achievements of artistic and cultural institutions within the State of New York, and in doing so, help to ensure that the complete history of our State and Nation is preserved and shared with present and future generations of New Yorkers; and

**WHEREAS,** In celebration of the comic book, which can trace its history to the 1842 publication of the first newspaper comic strip in New York City, as an art form that has evolved over the decades to bring reading and adventure to both young and old, this Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim May 5, 2018, as Free Comic Book Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Free Comic Book Day, a holiday dedicated to introducing readers to independent comic book stores and this fantastic craft; and

**WHEREAS,** The comic book industry is a homegrown Manhattan industry, especially in New York's 27th State Senate District where Marvel originated in its earliest iteration as Timely Comics; and

**WHEREAS,** Marvel Comics has contributed to New York's economy and tourism especially, with many traveling to New York specifically to see where Spider-Man or other superheroes helped save the city and the world; and

**WHEREAS,** Storied New York City neighborhoods such as Hell's Kitchen, Greenwich Village, Lower East Side, Midtown, and the Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens are home to countless comic book protagonists, including Daredevil, The Fantastic Four, Doctor Strange, Captain America and the Avengers, Jessica Jones, Luke Cage, and our friendly neighborhood Spiderman who toils at the Daily Bugle in the Flatiron District when he isn't busy fighting crime; and

**WHEREAS,** The real life New York City has been recognized as a creative center for all manner of artists, including comic book illustrators and writers, contributing to the economy and the overall dynamic culture of this city; and

**WHEREAS,** The comic book industry has blossomed into a successful television and movie industry that enchants and inspires young people of diverse backgrounds, such as the widely popular and instantly iconic Black Panther movie of this past year; and

**WHEREAS,** New York City's diversity, energy and culture are key

factors taken into consideration in the creation of new comics today so that every reader has a character who they recognize in themselves and with whom they can identify; and

**WHEREAS,** Comics remain a way for people to connect through fictional characters through cosplay, conventions, and other gatherings of fans and admirers, frequently hosted in New York City; and

**WHEREAS,** Free Comic Book Day celebrates comics, making the art form accessible to all who wish to peruse new publications and delve into the world of comics and graphic novels and books; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim May 5, 2018, as Free Comic Book Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Free Comic Book Day, and to commemorate and recognize Free Comic Book Day as a celebration of comics and those who love them; 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.