

**BY:** M. of A. Simotas

**MEMORIALIZING** Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim  
April 2019, as Arab-American Heritage Month in the  
State of New York

**WHEREAS**, April is recognized by the United States Congress as  
Arab-American Heritage Month; and

**WHEREAS**, It is estimated that nearly 2 million Arab-Americans live  
in the United States, 400,000 of whom call New York State home; and

**WHEREAS**, Arabs have made significant contributions to the  
advancements of Algebra, Trigonometry, Astronomy, Engineering and  
Physics; and

**WHEREAS**, Since their migration to the United States, individuals of  
Arab descent have made important contributions to the growth of the  
United States in various fields; and

**WHEREAS**, Individuals of Arab descent have long served our nation in  
public office as cabinet appointees, members of Congress, United States  
Senators and in state and local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, Arab-Americans have used their culture, traditions, work  
ethic and commitment to education and diversity in faith as tools to  
strengthen communities across New York State; and

**WHEREAS**, History has shown that Arab-Americans have long been  
subjected to bigotry through hate crimes and hate speech; and

**WHEREAS**, Increasing education and public awareness is crucial to  
combatting instances of civil rights abuse, hatred and racism towards  
Arab-Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, Arab-Americans have contributed greatly to the success and  
growth of this great Empire State; and therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to  
memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2019, as  
Arab-American Heritage Month in the State of New York; 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.