

**BY:** Senator COONEY

**MEMORIALIZING** Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim May 2021, as Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes and Hypermobility Spectrum Disorders Awareness Month in the State of New York

**WHEREAS,** It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize official months that are set aside to increase awareness of serious illnesses 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 May 2021, as Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes and Hypermobility Spectrum Disorders Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National as Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes and Hypermobility Spectrum Disorders Awareness Month; and

**WHEREAS,** Ehlers-Danlos syndromes (EDS) are a group of disorders that affect the body's connective tissues including the skin, joints, blood vessels, gut, and many other organs and tissues; and

**WHEREAS,** EDS, a chronic, life-long condition, affects more than one in 5,000 people, and both males and females of every age and race; and

**WHEREAS,** Hypermobility Spectrum Disorder (HSD) is diagnosed when the musculoskeletal complications of joint hypermobility and joint instability (ease of injury, joint pain, and dislocations for example) arise in a person who does not have the defining features of an underlying syndrome such as EDS or other heritable disorders of connective tissue; and

**WHEREAS,** In addition, several related disorders are observed in a number of people with EDS and with HSD; these add complexity to the presentation of their condition and its management; and

**WHEREAS,** A network of EDS and HSD support groups can help connect those managing life with these conditions as well as better inform the health care community and the public; and

**WHEREAS,** Early and accurate diagnosis can provide the opportunity to create life-saving medical plans and improve quality of life; and

**WHEREAS,** Currently, there is no treatment for the Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes and no known cure; and

**WHEREAS,** It is imperative that there be greater awareness of these serious 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 Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim May 2021, as Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes and Hypermobility Spectrum Disorders Awareness 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.