

**BY:** Senator RIVERA

**MEMORIALIZING** Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim  
May 5, 2021, as Dyslexia Awareness Day in the State  
of New York

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body that the State of New York is committed to equal educational opportunities by identifying obstacles to educational advancement and helping to remove those obstacles; and

**WHEREAS,** Dyslexia, which often runs in families, is a language-based learning disability that is neurobiological in origin which interferes with language processing, accurate and/or fluent word recognition, spelling and decoding abilities and reading comprehension despite average or above average intelligence; and

**WHEREAS,** Dyslexia varies in severity ranging from mild to profound and is characterized by a combination of difficulties with phonological and orthographic processing leading to difficulties in reading, writing, spelling, handwriting and/or math which can create a wide gap between an individual's intellectual ability and their academic and/or personal achievement; and

**WHEREAS,** Dyslexia is identifiable as early as 4-6 years of age and early intervention is beneficial as the negative consequences are highly preventable through effective, direct instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension; and

**WHEREAS,** Dyslexia can affect anyone, regardless of race, gender, culture or socioeconomic status and impacts up to 20% of the population; and

**WHEREAS,** Literacy skills for everyone is an important goal for the State of New York and dyslexia affects a high percentage of our struggling readers, and it is important that we learn to recognize and to address this learning difference so that each person in New York has the opportunity to be able to learn, read and spell proficiently and reach their full potential; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim May 5, 2021, as Dyslexia Awareness Day 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.