Senate Resolution No. 239

BY: Senator PERSAUD

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim November 2023, as Pulmonary Hypertension 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 Kathy Hochul to proclaim November 2023, as Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, Each November, the Pulmonary Hypertension Association (PHA) launches a national campaign to raise awareness about pulmonary hypertension (PH); this progressive rare disease is defined by high blood pressure in the lungs and can cause right-heart failure and death; and

WHEREAS, Although it is not known exactly how many people are affected, PH is a contributing factor to more than 18,000 adult deaths in the United States every year; it affects people of any age, and can occur among those with left-heart disease, associated conditions such as sleep apnea, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or scleroderma, or from congenital heart disease; and

WHEREAS, The disease is significantly underdiagnosed and misunderstood, even among health care providers; symptoms, including shortness of breath, fatigue and chest pain, are not necessarily specific to PH and can lead to dangerous delays in a correct diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, While PH is incurable, early diagnosis and proper treatment can extend and improve an individual's quality of life; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater awareness of this serious health condition, and more must be done to increase activity at local, State and National levels; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim November 2023, as Pulmonary Hypertension 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 Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York.