

BY: Senator STAVISKY

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim November 2024, as Hospice and Palliative Care Awareness Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, New York State places the highest priority on the health and well-being of all its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Honoring patient preferences is a critical element in providing quality end-of-life care; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim November 2024, as Hospice and Palliative Care Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Hospice and Palliative Care Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, For more than 40 years, hospice has given comfort and provided dignity to millions of people, allowing them to spend their final days and months at home, surrounded by the people important to them; and

WHEREAS, The hospice model is built on an interdisciplinary, team approach to treatment and support, including expert medical care, quality symptom control, and comprehensive pain management as a foundation of care; and

WHEREAS, Beyond providing clinical treatment, hospice attends to the patient's emotional, spiritual and social needs, caregiver training, and bereavement support; and

WHEREAS, As hospice organizations are some of the best providers of community-based palliative care helping to improve the quality of end-of-life life through pain and symptom control and other services; and

WHEREAS, In an increasingly fragmented and broken health care system, hospice is one of the few sectors that demonstrates how health care can and should work at its best for the people it serves; and

WHEREAS, 1.72 million Medicare beneficiaries and their families throughout the United States living with life-limiting illness, received care through hospice programs in the year 2020 alone; and

WHEREAS, As changes in patient diagnoses call for innovation in how hospices provide care to those in need; and

WHEREAS, Hospice and palliative care organizations are advocates and educators about advance care planning that help individuals and families make decisions about the care they want; and

WHEREAS, Although the criteria to be enrolled in hospice and palliative care differs, both services manage symptoms to help keep loved one comfortable, and services can be provided at any time during a serious illness; and

WHEREAS, Sharing a holistic and integrative approach to care by treating the whole person - physically, emotionally, spiritually, and socially, both hospice and palliative care focus on relieving symptoms, pain and stress, for the patient, their caregivers and their family; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim November 2024, as Hospice and Palliative Care 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.