Senate Resolution No. 64

BY: Senator PARKER

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim June 1-7, 2023, as CPR-AED Awareness Week in the State of New York

WHEREAS, The State of New York takes great pride in recognizing serious health concerns, proclaiming official weeks to increase awareness of such concerns, which affect thousands of New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim June 1-7, 2023, as Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Awareness Week in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National CPR-AED Awareness Week; and

WHEREAS, Heart disease affects men, women, and children of every age and race in the United States, and sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is a leading cause of death in the United States, affecting approximately 356,000 people of all ages outside hospitals annually; and

WHEREAS, During this week alone, about 6,800 unsuspecting victims will suffer SCA, most of them at home (about 70 percent); their hearts will unexpectedly stop beating and blood will no longer flow to the brain and throughout the body; they will collapse, stop breathing normally, and may appear to be having seizures; in essence, they will be dead and they will stay this way unless bystanders act immediately to restore their heartbeats with CPR and defibrillation; and

WHEREAS, Unfortunately, only 46 percent of SCA victims receives the help that they need from bystanders before EMS arrives at the scene; and

WHEREAS, For every minute that passes without CPR and defibrillation, the chances of survival decrease by 7-10 percent; as a result, only 10 percent of victims typically survive; survival rates could double or triple if more people knew what to do when SCA strikes; in fact, as many as 50,000 additional lives could be saved each year; and

WHEREAS, In 2007, the United States Federal Government passed a bill that recognized CPR and AED Awareness Week on a yearly basis; CPR-AED Awareness Week helps to spread information and encourage more people to learn how to properly perform CPR and use AED machines to save people's lives; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body recognizes the critical importance of increasing the survival rate from cardiac arrest and of incorporating the tools of CPR and AED into aggressive programs in order to save thousands of lives each year; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim June 1-7, 2023, as CPR-AED Awareness Week 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.