Senate Resolution No. 65

**BY:** Senator PARKER

**MEMORIALIZING** Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim April 6, 2022, as Alcohol Screening Day in the State of New York

**WHEREAS,** It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize official days that are set aside to increase awareness of serious issues 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, it is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim April 6, 2022, as Alcohol Screening Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Alcohol Screening Day; and

**WHEREAS,** National Alcohol Screening Day (NASD) was established in 1999 by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to raise awareness about alcohol misuse and referrals to treatment for individuals with alcohol problems through outreach, education and screening programs; and

**WHEREAS,** NASD is held each year on the Thursday of the first full week in April; thousands of colleges, community-based organizations, and military installations offer anonymous and confidential screenings online or in-person at public events; and

**WHEREAS,** Throughout this day, the people who visit the screening centers are dealt with on a case by case basis; they are asked to complete a written self-assessment about their alcohol use, and health care professionals at the centers then tailor advice to that individual; and

**WHEREAS,** On the first screening day in 1999, 50,000 people visited the 1,500 screening centers throughout the United States for advice; a higher than expected number of college students attended; and

**WHEREAS,** Alcohol abuse can be high in college students, who, whilst typically not dependent on alcohol, abuse it by frequently drinking large volumes; excessive, often rapid, consumption of alcohol is also known as binge drinking; and

**WHEREAS,** In a follow up study of Alcohol Screening Day, it was found that 44% of college students interviewed had consumed over four alcoholic drinks in a drinking session, on one or more occasions within 30 days; and

**WHEREAS,** Alcohol abuse can lead to many recognized health problems which can include anxiety, depression or sexual problems; where alcohol abuse occurs over a longer period of time, there is increased risk of developing certain cancers, liver cirrhosis, high blood pressure and heart problems; and

**WHEREAS,** It is essential that there be greater public awareness of the benefits of alcohol screening, and all New Yorkers are urged to seek professional help if they are struggling with alcohol abuse; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim April 6, 2022, as Alcohol Screening 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 Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York.