Assembly Resolution No. 85

BY: M. of A. Wallace

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim February 1, 2023, as Girls and Women in Sports Day in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is with noble admiration that this Legislative Body pays just tribute to those venerable female athletes who distinguish themselves through notable achievements and represent their State and Nation with pride and determination; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body hereby memorializes Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim February 1, 2023, as Girls and Women in Sports Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Girls and Women in Sports Day; and

WHEREAS, This year, National Girls and Women in Sports Day (NGWSD) is observed on February 1st with the purpose of promoting the narrative of women in every aspect of sports, and breaking the gender stereotypes built around the sports industry; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, National Girls and Women in Sports Day aims to motivate girls and women to play sports and be energetic, and to realize their full potential, seizing each day as an opportunity to play their favorite sport for a mental and physical boost; and

WHEREAS, National Girls and Women in Sports Day was first observed in 1987 to remember the Olympic volleyball player Flo Hyman, acknowledging her as the best female volleyball player of her time and recognizing her tireless work in promoting equal representation of women in sports; and

WHEREAS, Since Flo Hyman's death, the day has evolved to commemorate all women athletes, their achievements, the positive impacts of inclusion of women in sports, and to address the challenges regarding equal participation of women in sports activities; the day also appreciates the progression made since the enactment of the civil rights law, Title IX; and

WHEREAS, Title IX was a public law passed in 1972, which completely changed the women's narrative in sports; this vital legislation called for equal participation of everyone in all federally funded programs and activities; subsequently, all public schools would ensure equitable sports opportunities to the students, regardless of their gender; and

WHEREAS, A true breakthrough in women's sports, prior to Title IX only one in 27 girls had access to sports activities; today, that statistic has lowered to two in five girls, which is a commendable improvement; and

WHEREAS, Celebrated in all 50 states, National Girls and Women in Sports Day is celebrated by organizing community events, award

ceremonies, and other sports activities which inspire girls and women to play sports and be active; and

WHEREAS, Sports competition instills the values of teamwork, pride and accomplishment, and the outstanding girls and women in athletics across this great Empire State have clearly made a contribution to the spirit of excellence which is their tradition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim February 1, 2023 as Girls and Women in Sports 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.