Senate Resolution No. 1436

BY: Senator WEIK

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim April 2026 as Multiple Birth 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 honor and increase awareness of important matters 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 2026 as Multiple Birth Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with National Multiple Birth Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, April is National Multiple Birth Awareness Month; Multiple Birth Awareness Month and its mission are the culmination of the history of multiple births within this Nation; and

WHEREAS, In 1934, the Dionne quintuplets were the first quintuplets to survive their infancy; the world's largest recorded multiple birth was nine babies in Sydney, Australia, in 1971; and

WHEREAS, By 1960, the National Organization for Multiples, also known as Multiples of America, was established to address the unique qualities, special challenges, and needs of multiple-birth children and provide research, education, and support for these children and their families; and

WHEREAS, The multiple-birth rate has significantly increased since the 1980s and, with more mothers and parents experiencing this, Multiple Birth Awareness Month serves to educate mothers on raising multiple children and to celebrate the joy that these babies bring; and

WHEREAS, Multiple Birth Awareness Month increases community awareness about the risks associated with multiple births and the challenges faced by multiple-birth families and assists in providing support and resources to families of multiple-birth children through education, research, and networking; and

WHEREAS, Due to the rise in multiple births over the last few decades, a Resolution was passed in 2011, declaring April as Multiple Birth Awareness Month in the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, With the increase in multiple births, the risks associated for mothers and babies have also increased; nationally, one of every eight twins and one of every three triplets are born prematurely; in single births, fewer than two in every 100 births are premature; additionally, infant mortality is four times more common for births of twins than single births; and

WHEREAS, Multiple Birth Awareness Month essentially spreads awareness about the issues related to multiple births, including twin-to-twin transfusion syndromes, premature births, fetal issues, and low birth weights; it also encourages parents of multiple babies or those who are expecting multiple babies to find and secure necessary resources and support; and

WHEREAS, Multiple Birth Awareness Month is also a reminder that, while multiple births can be a challenge, the joy that these babies bring makes it worthwhile; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim April 2026 as Multiple Birth 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.