Senate Resolution No. 1943

BY: Senator ORTT

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 2026, as Preeclampsia Awareness Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to help increase awareness of serious health conditions 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, this Legislative Body hereby memorializes Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 2026, as Preeclampsia Awareness Month in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Preeclampsia, is a Hypertensive Disorder of Pregnancy (HDP) most often characterized by a rapid rise in blood pressure that when left untreated can lead to seizure, stroke, multiple organ failure, and death of the mother and/or baby; and

WHEREAS, 60 percent of hypertension-related maternal deaths, including preeclampsia, are potentially preventable, with missed opportunities for appropriate, recommended care of severe maternal hypertension; and

WHEREAS, Preeclampsia usually begins after 20 weeks of pregnancy in women whose blood pressure had previously been in the standard range; and

WHEREAS, Early delivery of the baby is recommended, depending on the severity of the preeclampsia and how many weeks pregnant the mother is; and

WHEREAS, Before delivery, preeclampsia treatment includes careful monitoring and medications to lower blood pressure and manage complications; and

WHEREAS, The only cure for preeclampsia is to give birth, yet even after delivery symptoms can last six weeks or more; and

WHEREAS, Preeclampsia may also develop after delivery of a baby, a condition known as postpartum preeclampsia; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 76,000 women and 500,000 babies die each year worldwide, with preeclampsia as a leading cause of maternal and infant illness and death in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The United States currently ranks 47th worldwide for maternal mortality, being the only industrialized nation with a rising maternal mortality rate; and

WHEREAS, Preeclampsia occurs throughout the world with no obvious

racial, ethnic or socioeconomic boundaries; and

WHEREAS, Preeclampsia Awareness Month increases the public's awareness of preeclampsia and acknowledges the terrible impact this disease has not only on mothers but on their families as well; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater awareness of this serious health condition, and more must be done to increase activity at the local, State, and National levels; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 2026, as Preeclampsia 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.