

Senate Resolution No. 2104

BY: Senator COONEY

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim June 2026 as Alzheimer's and Brain 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 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 June 2026 as Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, There are approximately 7.4 million people living with Alzheimer's disease and dementia in the United States in 2026; 427,000 are New York State residents over the age of 65; and

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's kills more people than breast cancer and prostate cancer combined; and

WHEREAS, Researchers believe that approximately 110 of every 100,000 people, aged 30 to 64 years, or approximately 200,000 Americans in total, have younger-onset dementia; and

WHEREAS, The total lifetime cost of care for a person with Alzheimer's disease or other dementia in the United States is estimated at \$405,000 dollars; and

WHEREAS, Average per-person Medicare spending for seniors with Alzheimer's is almost three times higher than average per-person spending for all other seniors; under Medicaid, spending is 23 times higher on average; and

WHEREAS, In New York State, 776,000 caregivers provided 1.3 billion hours of unpaid care; 61.2% of these caregivers live with chronic health issues of their own, and 20% report living with depression; and

WHEREAS, Findings from two national surveys reveal that discrimination is a barrier to Alzheimer's and dementia care; more than one-third of Black Americans (36%) and nearly one-fifth of Hispanic Americans (18%) and Asian Americans (19%) believe discrimination would be a barrier to receiving Alzheimer's care; and

WHEREAS, In addition, half or more of non-White caregivers say they have experienced discrimination when navigating healthcare settings for their care recipients; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater public awareness of this serious health issue, 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 June 2026 as Alzheimer's and Brain 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.