Assembly Resolution No. 1037

BY: M. of A. Sayegh

memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim March 1, 2026, as Horse Protection Day in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that animals play a meaningful and enduring role in the lives of New Yorkers, providing companionship, service, and contributions that enrich our communities; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of this long-standing commitment to animal welfare, this Legislative Body is proud to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim March 1, 2026, as Horse Protection Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Horse Protection Day; and

WHEREAS, National Horse Protection Day was established in March 2005 by animal advocate and pet lifestyle expert Colleen Paige to raise awareness of the humane treatment of horses, promote adoption and rescue efforts, and encourage responsible and ethical horse care worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Throughout history, horses have played a vital role in the advancement of civilization, serving as trusted partners in agriculture, transportation, commerce, and military service; and

WHEREAS, Horses were instrumental in the settlement and development of communities, carrying people and goods across long distances and contributing immeasurably to the growth of trade, industry, and daily life; and

WHEREAS, The cultural and historical significance of horses is reflected across civilizations and eras, from ancient art and literature to their symbolic role in American history and heritage; and

WHEREAS, In the United States, horses are enduring symbols of strength, freedom, and perseverance, and have played an essential role in shaping the nation's identity, including during pivotal moments in its founding and expansion; and

WHEREAS, The humane treatment and protection of horses reflects society's shared values of compassion, responsibility, and respect for all living beings; and

WHEREAS, Horse Protection Day provides an opportunity to educate the public, support animal welfare efforts, and reaffirm a commitment to safeguarding the well-being of horses across the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, On March 1, 2026, animal advocates, owners, industry participants, and citizens will unite to recognize the positive contributions of horses and to promote their protection and care; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim March 1, 2026, as Horse Protection Day in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York; the Empire City Casino and Racetrack; and the Standardbred Owners Association of New York.