Assembly Resolution No. 1073

BY: M. of A. Slater

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim March 6, 2026, as Dentist's Day in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to commend and recognize those esteemed individuals within the medical community for their extraordinary and sustained contributions to the progress of medicine and the improvement of life; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim March 6, 2026, as Dentist's Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Dentist's Day; and

WHEREAS, Observed every year on March 6th, Dentist's Day was established as a way to show appreciation and thanks for dentists, bring awareness to dentistry so that people will know more about how to care for their teeth, and encourage people who may have avoided going to the dentist to come in for a checkup; and

WHEREAS, A dentist is a doctor, scientist and clinician dedicated to the highest standards of health through prevention, diagnosis and treatment of oral diseases and conditions; a dentist plays a key role in the early detection of oral cancer and other systemic conditions of the body that manifest themselves in the mouth, and can often identify other health conditions, illnesses, and other problems that sometimes show up in the oral cavity before they are identified in other parts of the body; and

WHEREAS, A dentist evaluates the overall health of their patients while advising them about oral health and disease prevention; performs clinical procedures, such as exams, fillings, crowns, implants, extractions and corrective surgeries; identifies, diagnoses and treats oral conditions; and performs general dentistry or practices in one of nine dental specialties; and

WHEREAS, By the late 1990s, cosmetic and aesthetic dentistry had become more and more popular as patients were requesting colorful braces, veneers, implants, and bleaching to make their teeth and smile look better; and

WHEREAS, Unfortunately, only 42 percent of adults report visiting the dentist less than once every year, 40 percent of children younger than the age of three have never been to the dentist, and three out of four millennials brush their teeth only once a day; and

WHEREAS, The first mention of dental hygiene can be dated back to 5000 B.C. when the ancient Sumerians believed tooth worms caused decay and cavities; and

WHEREAS, The first dentist, Hesy-Ra from ancient Egypt, is known to be one of the earliest dental practitioners, as recorded in 2600 B.C.; and

WHEREAS, In 1530, Artzney Buchlein wrote the first book on dental health entitled Little Medicinal Book for All Kinds of Diseases and Infirmities of the Teeth; and

WHEREAS, Since ancient times, dentists have proven themselves to be a great asset to medicine and to the health and welfare of the citizens of the State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim March 6, 2026, as Dentist's 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.