

Assembly Resolution No. 1473

**BY:** M. of A. Rules (Lunsford)

**MEMORIALIZING** Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim  
May 2026, as Asthma and Allergy 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 health 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, this Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 2026, as Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month; and

**WHEREAS,** Each year, the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) declares May as National Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month since it is peak season for those suffering from asthma and allergies; and

**WHEREAS,** Asthma is a long-term disease that causes your airways to become swollen and inflamed, making it hard to breathe; and

**WHEREAS,** An allergy occurs when the body's immune system sees a substance as harmful and overreacts to it; the reactions can range from mild to severe and can cause a medical emergency; and

**WHEREAS,** There is no cure for asthma and allergies, and many deaths are preventable with proper treatment and care; and

**WHEREAS,** Allergies, asthma, and several other inflammatory conditions are related: eczema (atopic dermatitis), contact dermatitis, nasal polyps, chronic hives, and various types of food allergies; and

**WHEREAS,** Asthma is one of the most common noncommunicable diseases among children; and

**WHEREAS,** Asthma is a leading cause of hospitalizations and school absences due to it being a chronic disease among children; and

**WHEREAS,** Black, Hispanic, and Indigenous individuals in the United States face the highest burden of asthma; and

**WHEREAS,** One of the most common chronic conditions in the U.S., 1 out of 3 people have allergies; and

**WHEREAS,** Nearly 32 out of 100 U.S. adults and more than 30 out of 100 U.S. children have a seasonal allergy, eczema, or food allergy; and

**WHEREAS,** On average, it is estimated that anaphylaxis (a severe allergic reaction) results in 45,000-50,000 emergency room visits in the United States each year; and

**WHEREAS,** Food allergies have increase among U.S. children over the past 20 years, with the greatest increase in Black children; further, children with food allergies are two to four times more likely to have asthma or other allergic diseases; and

**WHEREAS,** People with asthma and food allergies need access to affordable health insurance and to the medications and devices they need at affordable prices; and

**WHEREAS,** Understanding allergic conditions is crucial for effective advocacy and support; by raising awareness and promoting education, we can empower communities to act now to support and improve the health of millions; and

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 2026, as Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month in the State of New York; and be it further