

Assembly Resolution No. 1526

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

**MEMORIALIZING** Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim  
June 20, 2026, as World Refugee Day in the State of  
New York

**WHEREAS,** It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize official days which are set aside to increase awareness of issues that affect the lives of citizens of the State of New York and the world; and

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay just tribute to the cultural heritage of the ethnic groups which comprise and contribute to the richness and diversity of the community of the State of New York; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concerns, and in keeping with its time-honored traditions, it is the intent of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim Saturday, June 20, 2026, as World Refugee Day in the State of New York; and

**WHEREAS,** The United States should honor refugees around the globe and celebrate the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home countries to escape conflict or persecution due to their race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership to a particular social group; and

**WHEREAS,** There are more than 117 million displaced people who have been forced from their homes worldwide, more than any other time in recorded history; this number includes over 42.5 million refugees and 8.42 million asylum seekers; and

**WHEREAS,** Welcoming the oppressed and persecuted is a core tenet of our country, as well as this great Empire State, which is home to a diverse population of refugees and immigrants who integrate and quickly add to the economic strength and cultural richness of our communities; and

**WHEREAS,** The United States refugee resettlement program, which was established over 40 years ago, is a lifesaving pillar of global humanitarian efforts, advancing United States foreign policy goals, strengthening United States national security, and supporting regional stability; and

**WHEREAS,** Resettlement to the United States is available for only the most vulnerable refugees who undergo rigorous security vetting and a medical screening process; and

**WHEREAS,** Refugees who enter the United States and the State of New York often integrate quickly and become self-sufficient by paying taxes, supporting local commerce, joining the workforce, and providing jobs; and

**WHEREAS,** There continues to be individuals and families in need of refuge and the support 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 June 20, 2026, as World Refugee Day; 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.