

Assembly Resolution No. 1574

**BY:** M. of A. Rules (Chandler-Waterman)

**MEMORIALIZING** Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim June 2026, as Gun Violence 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 intent of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim June 2026, as Gun Violence Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Gun Violence Awareness Month; and

**WHEREAS,** According to the Centers for Disease Control, there were approximately 48,000 people killed by firearms in the United States in 2022; more than half of these gun-related deaths were suicides, and more than four of every ten of these deaths were homicides; and

**WHEREAS,** According to Gun Violence Archive (GVA), a nonprofit organization that tracks media and law enforcement reports of shootings, at least 16,725 people in the United States were killed by guns in 2024 in willful, malicious, or accidental occurrences, not including suicides; and

**WHEREAS,** Firearms are the leading cause of death of American children and teenagers; Everytown for Gun Safety reported 3,865 gun-related deaths of individuals between the ages of 1 and 19 in the United States in 2024; and

**WHEREAS,** The New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services reports that in 2024, of the 80,399 violent crimes committed in New York State, 9,790 involved a firearm; and

**WHEREAS,** Gun violence continues to be a devastating crisis throughout the state with an increase of shootings and murders typically occurring in the summer months; and

**WHEREAS,** The damage caused by gun violence is not limited by gender, race, sexual orientation, or ethnicity; and

**WHEREAS,** The effects of gun violence extend far beyond those struck by a bullet; and

**WHEREAS,** It is imperative that there be greater public awareness of this serious issue including prevention, intervention, education, and outreach; and

**WHEREAS,** Increased awareness and coordination among all stakeholders is critical to the prevention of gun violence, the equal protection of

our citizens, and to ensure the safety of our precious youth; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim June 2026, as Gun Violence 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.