

BY: M. of A. Lupardo

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim January 2025, as Radon 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 hereby memorializes Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim January 2025, as Radon Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Radon Action Month; and

WHEREAS, Radon is a colorless, odorless, invisible gas that can only be detected through radon testing; it is a radioactive gas that is produced by the natural decay of uranium that is found in nearly all soils; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that radon causes many thousands of deaths each year due to breathing air containing radon which can cause lung cancer; the Surgeon General has warned that radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States today; and

WHEREAS, The only way to know if there is a risk from radon is to test for it; the EPA and the Surgeon General both strongly recommend testing all homes below the third floor for radon; and

WHEREAS, The Governor signed Chapter 414 of 2018 which recognized the dangers of exposure and created a Radon Task Force to conduct a comprehensive study on the human exposure to radon in indoor settings in New York State; the Task Force, in its final report in 2023, addressed the need for interagency coordination of public education and outreach and prevention programs, as well as the need for training, education, and possible licensing of radon services providers; it also addressed other related information that the commissioner of health deemed necessary and relevant in carrying out such studies of radon in indoor settings; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater awareness of this serious health condition, and more must be done to increase activity at the local, State and National levels; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim January 2025, as Radon 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.