Assembly Resolution No. 365

BY: M. of A. Williams

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim April 27, 2025, as Children of the Holocaust Remembrance Day in the State of New York

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

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing tradition, it is the sense of this Legislative Body to proclaim April 27, 2025, as Children of the Holocaust Remembrance Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of International Holocaust Remembrance Day; and

WHEREAS, From 1933 to 1945, an estimated 1.5 million children, the youth of tomorrow, were systematically executed in the Nazi Holocaust as part of a genocide of the Jewish people, and millions of other people also perished as victims of Nazism; and

WHEREAS, Ghetto residences were established at the onset of Nazi invasion, the Jew and other groups were rounded up and forced into these horrific living conditions; and

WHEREAS, From 1942 onwards, the ghetto program ended and inhabitants of the ghettos were murdered at various death camps; because children were generally too young to be deployed as forced labor, they were particularly vulnerable to being killed; they were one of the main groups in the first deportations to killing centers or in mass shootings near mass graves along with the elderly, the ill, and the disabled; and

WHEREAS, Children who were healthy enough for labor were often worked to death doing jobs to benefit the camp; other times, children were forced to do unnecessary jobs like digging ditches; and

WHEREAS, The year 2025 marks the 92nd Anniversary of the beginning of the genocide of European Jews, the bleakest, most murderous moment in history; and

WHEREAS, The Holocaust represents the darkest period in the civilization of mankind and must always be remembered in order to prevent its reoccurrence anywhere else in the world; and

WHEREAS, Children of the Holocaust Remembrance Day is a day set aside for remembering the innocent children who fell prey to the viciousness of others; and

WHEREAS, It is critically important to remember the events of the Holocaust to ensure that the events shall "never again" happen, which has been the rallying cry among the Jewish people and take cognizance of the youth that was wiped from earth for no reason besides bigotry and

hatred; and

WHEREAS, In times of war and chaos, with the threat of genocide and ethnic cleansing present in many war-torn regions of the world, the events of the Holocaust continue to be relevant and important to remember so that suffering on this scale is prevented from occurring ever again; and

WHEREAS, Knowing that the events and root causes of the Holocaust must not be forgotten and the brightness that exudes from children to be remembered and not erased and that, particularly as survivors diminish in number, we must educate future generations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim April 27, 2025, as Children of the Holocaust Remembrance 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.