Assembly Resolution No. 902

BY: M. of A. Schiavoni

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim February 2026, as Turner Syndrome 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 fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim February 2026, as Turner Syndrome Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with National Turner Syndrome Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, Turner Syndrome is the second most common genetic disorder, affecting 1 in 2,000 females; over 1,000 baby girls are born with the Syndrome annually; and

WHEREAS, Discovered in 1938 by Dr. Henry Turner, Turner Syndrome is a genetic condition that can only affect people born female; instead of the usual 46 chromosomes a person is born with, those with Turner Syndrome have cells that are missing all or part of an X chromosome; and

WHEREAS, In about half of all individuals with Turner Syndrome, the affected female has only one X chromosome; others may have two X chromosomes, but one is incomplete; sometimes a female has some cells with two X chromosomes, but other cells have only one; and

WHEREAS, Most fetuses (98-99%) with Turner Syndrome will die before birth, and the genetic disorder is contributed to about 10% of all first-trimester miscarriages; and

WHEREAS, More than 30% of individuals with Turner Syndrome are not diagnosed until they are 15 years old, and only 3.5% receive adequate care; with increased awareness, the lives of those affected can be drastically improved; and

WHEREAS, In 2025, there was over 85,337 individuals living with Turner Syndrome in the United States; it is estimated that an approximate 5,028 women in New York State have the genetic disorder; and

WHEREAS, Ultimately, the specific cause of Turner Syndrome is unknown because the gene on the X chromosome that is responsible for most of the features of the chromosomal disorder is undetermined; however, researchers have been able to identify the gene responsible for short stature and skeletal abnormalities, which is the SHOX gene, important for bone development and growth; and

WHEREAS, The signs of Turner Syndrome should be detected during a girl's first few years of life for the best possible outcomes for

treatment; a variety of signs allude to the possibility of an individual having this condition, such as a short stature and frequent ear infections, which should signal the need for diagnostic testing for the disorder; and

WHEREAS, There are many health concerns associated with a diagnosis of Turner Syndrome, including: potentially fatal cardiovascular diseases; reduced cognitive function; educational issues consisting of difficulty with visual spatial tasks, memory, attention, as well as other learning disabilities; risk of ovarian failure; type II diabetes; hyporthyroidism; psychological issues like low self-esteem, predisposition to age-specific problems, isolation, depression; pregnancy complications; and hearing issues, along with many other complications; and

WHEREAS, Symptoms that are prevalent among females with Turner Syndrome often go untreated because of lack of education about the signs, symptoms and possible treatments to improve overall quality of life outcomes; by spreading awareness about this condition, those affected by Turner Syndrome may be treated earlier to produce long-term positive outcomes for the patient; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 2008, the Turner Syndrome Foundation supports research initiatives and facilitates educational programs that increase professional awareness and enhance medical care of those affected by Turner Syndrome; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater public awareness of this serious health issue, 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 February 2026, as Turner Syndrome Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with National Turner Syndrome Awareness Month; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, and the Turner Syndrome Foundation.