Assembly Resolution No. 989

BY: M. of A. Rosenthal

HONORING June K. Wu, MD, for her extraordinary advocacy, education, and research contributions as a globally recognized pediatric plastic and craniofacial surgeon serving the lymphatic community

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that the quality and character of life in communities across New York State are shaped by the dedicated efforts of individuals and organizations committed to improving the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor June K. Wu, MD, a New York City resident and surgeon whose leadership has advanced research, education, and awareness for individuals affected by lymphedema and other lymphatic diseases, in conjunction with the observance of World Lymphedema Day on March 6, 2026; and

WHEREAS, World Lymphedema Day is a global observance dedicated to raising awareness of lymphatic diseases, celebrating resilience within the lymphatic community, and honoring the healthcare professionals, researchers, and advocates who serve them; and

WHEREAS, World Lymphedema Day also serves as a call to action to address this debilitating condition, which often affects cancer survivors as well as individuals born with lymphatic disorders; and

WHEREAS, An estimated 10 million Americans and 250 million people worldwide live with either primary (hereditary or genetic) or secondary (acquired) lymphedema, including many who have undergone cancer treatment; and

WHEREAS, Dr. June K. Wu is an Associate Professor of Surgery at Columbia University Irving Medical Center, Co-Director of the NYP/Columbia University Irving Medical Center Interdisciplinary Vascular Anomalies Group, and Co-Director of the Vascular Anomalies Basic and Translational Research Program, and is internationally recognized for her commitment to improving outcomes for individuals living with lymphatic disease; and

WHEREAS, She leads pioneering research focused on developing innovative and affordable treatments for lymphatic diseases, including securing funding from the Department of Defense Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program to study postoperative chylothorax in pediatric congenital cardiac patients; and

WHEREAS, Dr. June K. Wu volunteers on the Global Oversight Committee responsible for evaluating international Centers of Excellence in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Lymphatic Diseases and played a key role in securing Columbia University Irving Medical Center/New York-Presbyterian's designation as a Comprehensive Center of Excellence,

one of only three in New York State; and

WHEREAS, Dr. June K. Wu and her team at Columbia University Irving Medical Center began their advocacy and fundraising efforts in 2012 through the Lymphatic Education & Research Network's NY Run/Walk to Fight Lymphatic Diseases, establishing a lasting partnership in service of patients and families; and

WHEREAS, Through her dedication, compassion, and leadership, Dr. June K. Wu continues to inspire patients, clinicians, and researchers alike; and

WHEREAS, Individuals who uplift their communities and sustain excellence over many years are deserving of recognition by the citizens of this State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor June K. Wu, MD, in conjunction with the observance of World Lymphedema Day, for her exceptional commitment to advancing education, research, and advocacy for lymphatic diseases; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to June K. Wu, MD, and to the Lymphatic Education & Research Network.