

2013-J3448

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim February 2014 as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, Childhood cancer is a substantial public health problem in the United States; the incidence of cancer among adolescents and young adults is increasing at a greater rate than any other age group, except those over 65 years; and

WHEREAS, Childhood cancers affect more potential patient-years of life than any other cancer except breast and lung cancer; and

WHEREAS, Cancer kills more children than AIDS, asthma, diabetes, cystic fibrosis and congenital anomalies combined; and

WHEREAS, Each year around 13,500 children are diagnosed with cancer in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children under the age of 15 in the United States; 1 in 5 children diagnosed with cancer will die within 5 years, and 1 in 3 children diagnosed with cancer will not live out a normal life span; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 11,630 children in the United States under the age of 15 will be diagnosed with cancer in 2014, and about 1,310 of those children are expected to die; and

WHEREAS, 91,250 lose their life to the cancer every year, 263,000 new cases of cancer affect children under the age of 20 worldwide, and 720 new kids are affected every day; and

WHEREAS, One in every 330 Americans develops cancer before the age of 20; and

WHEREAS, The causes of most childhood cancers are unknown; presently, childhood cancer cannot be prevented; childhood cancer occurs regularly, randomly and spares no ethnic group, socioeconomic class, or geographic

region; and

WHEREAS, Cancers in children often are difficult to recognize; common sites include the blood and bone marrow, lymph nodes, brain, nervous system, kidneys, and soft tissues; and

WHEREAS, Some of the main childhood cancers include leukemia, osteogenic sarcoma, Ewing's sarcoma, neuroblastoma, rhabdomyoma sarcoma, brain cancers, lymphomas and Hodgkin's, retinoblastoma, and Wilm's tumor; among the 11 major types of childhood cancers, leukemia and brain and central nervous system tumors account for more than half of all new cases; and

WHEREAS, Parents should see that their children have regular medical checkups, a healthy diet, and 60 minutes of exercise a day, and should be alert to any unusual symptoms which persist; and

WHEREAS, Some of these symptoms include an unusual mass or swelling, unexplained paleness and loss of energy, sudden tendency to bruise, a persistent localized pain or limping, unexplained fever or illness, frequent headaches, sudden eye or vision changes, and excessive rapid weight loss; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body reaffirms its commitment to encouraging continued early detection and treatment of childhood cancer and access to quality medical care for treatment and post-treatment options; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body further reaffirms its commitment to provide children and their families with access to information and the ability to interact with medical experts, researchers, and other affected individuals and their families; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim February 2014 as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, and to Sunrise Day Camp, Oceanside, New York.