

2013-J4162

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2014 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Child Abuse Prevention Month

WHEREAS, There is no test of society more important than its treatment of children, its most precious resource; every child merits the respect, encouragement, and concern of all; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2014 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Child Abuse Prevention Month; and

WHEREAS, National Child Abuse Prevention Month is observed every April to alert Americans to the ongoing crisis of child abuse; to teach communities to recognize the signs and symptoms of this far too common problem; and to encourage the prevention of child abuse and neglect through education and resources; and

WHEREAS, Child Abuse Prevention Month also seeks to remember all the children who have lost their lives or have been seriously affected by familial violence; and

WHEREAS, Child abuse and neglect is a complex and significant problem; it crosses all cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines, exists within all religions, and occurs at all levels of education in our State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, A report of child abuse is made every ten seconds in America, and more than four children die every day as a result of child abuse; approximately 70% of children who die from abuse are under the age of four; and

WHEREAS, Society pays a high price for child abuse and neglect; the

estimated annual cost in the United States for 2008 was \$124 billion; 14% of all men in prison and 36% of women in prison were abused as children, about twice the frequency seen in the general population; and WHEREAS, Preventing child abuse and neglect requires a partnership of government and local agencies; the goal is to identify and promote early recognition of abuse or neglect and to develop effective prevention programs; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is committed to ensuring the safety and quality of life of the children of this State and Nation, and to protect future generations of citizens; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to declare April 2014 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Child Abuse Prevention Month; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York.