

2013-K1047

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to declare April 23-29, 2014, as Pedestrian Safety Awareness Week in the State of New York

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

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to declare April 23-29, 2014, as Pedestrian Safety Awareness Week in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Each year, pedestrians are involved in approximately 28% of fatal motor vehicle accidents which occur on New York State's roadways, more than twice the national average of 12%, with 71% of the State's pedestrian fatalities and 78% of the pedestrian injuries occurring in the five boroughs of New York City; and

WHEREAS, In New York State, approximately 300 pedestrians are killed and approximately 14,700 pedestrians are injured each year; furthermore, on an average day, one pedestrian is killed and 40 are injured; pedestrians are 10 times more likely to die than a motor vehicle occupant in the event of a crash; and

WHEREAS, On average, a pedestrian is killed in a traffic accident every 129 minutes and injured in a traffic accident every nine minutes in the United States; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that as many as 99% of pedestrian accidents could be eliminated if both motor vehicle drivers and pedestrians took a little extra caution at crosswalks and on roadways; and

WHEREAS, In New York State, the annual comprehensive societal cost of pedestrian fatalities and injuries are nearly \$1.3 billion and \$1.5

billion, respectively; and

WHEREAS, The highest pedestrian death rate is for adults ages 65 years and older, at 4.5 deaths per 100,000 residents, which is three times higher than the overall pedestrian death rate; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater public awareness of this serious safety issue, and more must be done to increase activity at the State, local and national levels to implement new safety counter-measures to prevent pedestrian injuries and fatalities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to declare April 23-29, 2014, as Pedestrian Safety Awareness Week in the State of New York; 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.