

## 2015-J4085

LEGISLATIVE REVOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 2016, as Early Intervention Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, The health and safety of all New Yorkers is important to the happiness, prosperity and well-being of our families, communities, and future; and

WHEREAS, New York's children are among our most valuable, precious and vulnerable populations; they require proper care and attention as soon as they are born and throughout their formative years; and

WHEREAS, The early years of a child's life are critical to development; during the infant and toddler years, children grow quickly and have much to learn; and

WHEREAS, Some children and families face special challenges and need extra help and, it is acknowledged that early help does make a difference; and

WHEREAS, Some children are born with developmental delays and disabilities; it is crucial that these children receive immediate and therapeutic intervention based upon acceptable norms and proper treatment upon diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Department of Health Bureau of Early Intervention is authorized to provide early intervention services for the more than 75,000 infants and toddlers with developmental delays and disabilities and their families throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, Research reflects that for every dollar spent in Early Intervention, at least seven dollars are saved in future state costs in special education; and

WHEREAS, Partnerships between state agencies, physicians and other private care providers and families with children with disabilities help

ensure the continuation of Early Intervention services which enhance development and promote the health and well-being of New York's children and families; and

WHEREAS, It is important that New York's citizens know about Early Intervention services available to infants and toddlers born with developmental delays and disabilities so that families may take advantage of every opportunity to improve the health and well-being of their children; and

WHEREAS, Early Intervention services and providers can help a family learn the best ways to care for their child, how to support and promote their child's development, and how to include their child in their family and community life; and

WHEREAS, Early Intervention and Early Intervention providers help New York State's most vulnerable children reach their potential during some of the most critical years of development; and

WHEREAS, Early Intervention providers also make vital, indispensable services available to the families of developmentally delayed children through individualized training and they support and help empower and unite children and their families as well; and

WHEREAS, The observance of Early Intervention Month in the State of New York provides an opportunity to recognize the availability and importance of Early Intervention providers and services in New York State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 2016, as Early Intervention 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 the National Student Speech Language and Hearing Association, Lehman College Chapter.