

## 2017-K507

Assembly Resolution No. 507

BY: M. of A. Malliotakis

MEMORIALIZING Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to declare  
September 2017, as Chronic Pain Awareness Month

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize official months 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, this Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to declare September 2017, as Chronic Pain Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Chronic Pain Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, Pain is a major public health problem for children and adults and is the number one reason Americans seek medical care; and

WHEREAS, The Institute of Medicine has found that 100 million Americans live with chronic pain as a result of serious illnesses and injuries; and

WHEREAS, As many as 20% of children in the United States have chronic pain, which is pain that is persistent or recurring frequently for more than three months; and

WHEREAS, Chronic pain costs the nation an estimated \$560 to \$630 billion annually in medical expenses, lost wages and lost productivity; and

WHEREAS, Pain negatively impacts almost every aspect of a person's life including the ability to work, sleep and engage in social activities as well as adversely impacts pain sufferers' families and caregivers; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Pain Foundation's mission is to inform, empower and advocate on behalf of over 36,000 members throughout the country and all those who live with chronic pain; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Pain Foundation provides education on pain management skills and constructive ways to cope with chronic pain and find fulfillment in life; and

WHEREAS, Increased awareness about the effects of chronic pain results in better outcomes, increased access to good pain care and empowerment and validation for those living with pain; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to declare September 2017, as Chronic Pain Awareness Month 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.