

Senate Resolution No. 699

BY: Senator PARKER

MEMORIALIZING Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2, 2011, as Autism Awareness Day in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize official days 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 proclaim April 2, 2011, as Autism Awareness Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with World Autism Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, Autism, the third most common developmental disability in the United States, affects over 26,000 people in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, This condition, the result of a neurological disorder, knows no racial, ethnic or social boundaries, and is four times more prevalent in boys than girls; and

WHEREAS, Autism, which affects as many as 1 in 166 children and 1 in 94 boys, is the fastest-growing serious developmental disability in the world; and

WHEREAS, More children will be diagnosed with autism this year than with diabetes, cancer, and AIDS combined; there is no medical detection or cure for autism, but early diagnosis and intervention improve outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Autism interferes with the normal development of the brain in the areas of reasoning, social interaction and communication skills, causing persons with autism to have difficulty relating to others; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, significant progress has been made in the areas of research, medicine, diagnostic issues, and therapies for autism, resulting in improved quality of life for those with autism and their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, It is in the interest of New York State to recognize the achievements made and to continue these efforts by promoting the awareness and fostering the understanding of autism; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2, 2011, as Autism Awareness Day 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.