

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim October 2017, as School Vision Health Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize official months that are set aside to increase awareness of health 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 proclaim October 2017, as School Vision Health Month in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, New York State recognizes that vision plays a critical role in children's physical, cognitive, and social development; and

WHEREAS, Research shows that 1 in 4 school-age children have a vision disorder; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Education Department recognizes that visual functioning impacts academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, To do their best in school, every child needs a quality, comprehensive eye exam from an eye care professional; and

WHEREAS, Physicians, optometrists, opticians and other health professionals licensed by the New York State Education Department play a vital role in ensuring overall eye health and appropriate vision correction; and

WHEREAS, Access to vision care is a concern for too many children, leaving them with unmet needs for care; and

WHEREAS, More than 10 percent of children have not had new or replacement glasses due to unaffordable costs; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Education Department is bringing together experts in vision care to schools across the State to help screen students, provide education and resources, and promote healthy eye care during the month of October; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater public awareness of this issue and more must be done to improve vision health for New York's students and those affected by such vision health issues; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim October 2017, as School Vision Health 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.