Proclamation

Whereas, New York State has a responsibility and vital role in identifying and protecting its residents, visitors, and businesses from, and responding to, cybersecurity threats that can significantly impact individual and collective public safety, security and privacy; and

Whereas, critical infrastructure includes sectors that impact the national security, economy, public health, safety, energy, and educational resources vital to the United States in a world that is increasingly reliant on the support of information systems and technology; and

Whereas, the New York State Office of Information Technology Services, established in 2012, enhances and protects New York State’s cybersecurity ecosystem through a cybersecurity workforce and the use of technology to monitor and respond to changes in the cyber landscape; and to serve the best interests of our state and nation by protecting the security and reliability of our critical infrastructure; and

Whereas, the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services operates the Cyber Incident Response Team, which provides cyber incident response and proactive cybersecurity services, such as cybersecurity risk assessments and training; and

Whereas, the Joint Security Operations Center, established in February 2022, is the first-of-its-kind hub for data sharing and cyber coordination across New York State, New York City, the five major upstate cities, local and regional governments, critical infrastructure and federal partners; and

Whereas, New York State will build upon its unprecedented $61.9 million investment in the state’s cybersecurity infrastructure, which includes $50 million to allow the state to assist localities by bolstering their cyber defenses; and

Whereas, cybersecurity education and awareness are critical for all who use the Internet and social media; individuals, businesses and organizations can protect themselves from phishing, viruses, ransomware, other types of malicious software, financial loss, and sensitive data loss through enhanced security measures and by being responsible and lawful when using the Internet; and

Whereas, all people are encouraged to examine the resources available through the federal government and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency – along with the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center, the National Association of State Chief Information Officers, the National Cybersecurity Alliance – to learn about cybersecurity and to put knowledge into practice in their homes, schools, workplaces, and businesses; and the national STOP. THINK. CONNECT.™ campaign that offers tools, tips, advice, and guidance to help people be safer and more secure online; and

Whereas, cybersecurity starts at home, so New Yorkers are urged to review their security and privacy settings of online accounts and remain vigilant and intentional about their online presence; by taking these actions, they can connect online with confidence, ensure their personal privacy and information, and do their part to help protect our state and national security;

Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim October 2022 as

Cybersecurity Awareness Month

in the Empire State.

Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this first day of
October in the year two thousand twenty-two.

Kathy Hochul
Governor

Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh