



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

**Whereas**, New Yorkers are united in the hope for a better, safer world in which there is no place for hatred and violence; we are committed to building bridges of understanding and respect for every person's identity – embracing the similarities as well as the differences that define each of us; and

**Whereas**, each year on November 20th, the world observes Transgender Day of Remembrance as a day of mourning to honor the memories of the transgender people whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence; first observed in 1999 as a means of remembering Rita Hester who was brutally murdered in Boston one year earlier on November 28, 1998, a crime that remains unsolved to this day; and

**Whereas**, we also mark Transgender Awareness Month to raise awareness of issues impacting transgender people, and take this opportunity to honor transgender activists, including trailblazing New Yorkers like Marsha P. Johnson, after whom we proudly renamed a newly renovated state park in Brooklyn this past June, and who stood firm alongside Sylvia Rivera and other brave activists who were pioneers of the LGBTQ+ civil rights movement and prominent figures in the Stonewall Uprising; and

**Whereas**, New York continues to make historic progress in establishing programs and policies that support the transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming communities and create greater equity for their participation and involvement in society; the creation of the Lorena Borjas Transgender Wellness and Equity Fund will support organizations that provide critical services for the transgender, gender non-conforming, and non-binary community, and other State initiatives are working to further eliminate social disparities impacting non-binary New Yorkers' full participation in the democratic process, including people seeking and holding elected office; and

**Whereas**, New York continually reaffirms that we are a state for all people – one where our transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming communities are fully accepted and embraced; these annual remembrances remind us to live openly in an authentic and accurate representation of who we are, and to be able to live free of violence, harassment, and discrimination; and

**Whereas**, we join to support the goals of this observance to raise awareness of acts of violence committed against transgender individuals and further develop a strong network of action to stop all incidents rooted in hatred, bias, and fear, and that help us move forward as a society with confidence through programs and policies that foster greater compassion and understanding within a positive and constructive context; and

**Whereas**, we remain dedicated to these ideals which preserve a core value of our democracy and one that we will always vigorously defend and uphold, and we commemorate this day as we continue to take action to protect the transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming communities and continue the ongoing fight for full LGBTQ+ rights and equality;

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

## TRANSGENDER AWARENESS MONTH

and join with people across the globe in special recognition of the worldwide observance of November 20, 2022 as

## TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

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  
November in the year two thousand twenty-two.

Secretary to the Governor  
Karen Persichilli Keogh

  
Governor