



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, New York State is dedicated to protecting the safety of its residents, businesses, visitors, and public and private institutions from cybersecurity threats that may impact our security, privacy, economy and way of life; and

Whereas, the critical infrastructure of New York State and the United States encompasses where our residents live and work, and resources that impact the economy, public health, transportation, and education, and is increasingly reliant on secure information systems and technology; and

Whereas, cybersecurity awareness and education helps to ensure that all members of society, ranging from elementary and college students, to government agencies, to small and large businesses, can safely benefit from digital interconnectivity; and

Whereas, New York State has committed \$600 million in support of the first-ever statewide cybersecurity strategy, which provides a resilient cyber defense of critical infrastructure, networks, data, and technology systems as defined by the three central principles of Unification, Resilience, and Preparedness; and

Whereas, the New York State Office of Information Technology Services (ITS) enhances and protects the State's cybersecurity ecosystem, leveraging a skilled workforce, as well as innovative and modern technology solutions, to monitor and respond to changes in the cyber landscape and protect critical infrastructure; and

Whereas, the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) operates the Cyber Incident Response Team, which monitors and responds to cyber incidents, in addition to providing cybersecurity risk assessments, identifying areas of potential vulnerability, and offering classes for training; and

Whereas, individuals, businesses, and organizations can protect themselves from financial loss and data theft from phishing, viruses, ransomware, and other types of malicious software by using enhanced security measures, including enabling multi-factor authentication, creating unique and robust passwords, and updating software as well as remaining responsible and careful when using the internet; and

Whereas, everyone is encouraged to utilize New York State resources made available through ITS and DHSES, along with those provided by the Federal Government, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center, the National Association of State Chief Information Officers, the National Cybersecurity Alliance, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology, to become better informed and educated about online safety and security; and

Whereas, New Yorkers are urged to review the security and privacy settings of online accounts and remain vigilant and intentional about their online presence, thereby allowing them to access online resources with confidence, ensure their personal privacy and information, and do their part to help protect the state and national security;

Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim October 2023 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 third day of October in the year two thousand twenty-three.

Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh

Governor