



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

**Whereas**, we recognize the vital role of technology in our daily lives and on the larger scale of national and international activity requiring people, businesses, public and private institutions, and others to use online functions for many purposes – from electronic communication, to financial transactions, to enhanced research and education; and

**Whereas**, websites, applications, and other online platforms are able to track users' personal information, such as name and location, as well as their behaviors and preferences, leaving a trail of data that can be exploited by persons with malicious intent; and

**Whereas**, data privacy is especially important for sensitive information, such as Social Security numbers and health data, as breaches of this information can have damaging lifelong consequences, including identity theft; and

**Whereas**, the National Cybersecurity Alliance, a non-profit organization that promotes cybersecurity and the safe use of technology, has named New York State a Data Privacy Champion, in recognition of our state's commitment to encouraging and empowering individuals and organizations to respect the confidentiality of personal information and to manage it carefully; and

**Whereas**, New Yorkers can protect their data through a few simple steps, such as adjusting privacy settings on applications and accounts, keeping accounts secure with robust passwords and multifactor authentication, keeping devices protected with the latest security updates, using caution when opening emails and hyperlinks, and being mindful of how and when they share information online; and

**Whereas**, the New York State Office of Information Technology Services (ITS) has partnered with other State Agencies, including the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES), the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance (DTF), the New York State Department of Financial Services (DFS), and the New York State Department of State (DOS) to promote the importance of data privacy and information security; and

**Whereas**, New York's first-ever Chief Risk and Data Privacy Officer is responsible for driving the state's strategy to protect the personal and confidential data of New Yorkers amid the rise in digital service offerings and new data privacy laws and regulations; and

**Whereas**, Data Privacy Week first began in January 2008 as Data Privacy Day in the United States and Canada, in association with the observance of Data Protection Day in Europe, commemorating the January 28, 1981 signing of Convention 108, the first legally binding international treaty dealing with privacy and data protection; New York State joins in supporting the critically important goals of reinforcing all means for keeping information safe and secure – and out of the hands of unauthorized and unlawful users;

**Now, Therefore**, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of New York State, do hereby proclaim January 21 - 27, 2024 as

## DATA PRIVACY AWARENESS WEEK

in the Empire State.



**G i v e n** under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this nineteenth day of January in the year two thousand twenty-four.

*Kathy Hochul*  
Governor

*Karen Persichilli Keogh*

Secretary to the Governor  
Karen Persichilli Keogh