

Proclamation

Exercise, May is recognized nationally as Older Americans Month in honor of individuals age 60 and over who contribute to the social, economic, and cultural vibrancy of our nation and state; and

Thereas, in 2022, the U.S. Administration for Community Living has established the theme "Age My Way" for Older Americans Month, exploring the many ways older adults can remain in and be involved with their communities; and

Thereas, New York's 4.6 million older adults fulfill vital roles in society as mentors, caregivers to loved ones, business owners and employees, community organizers, public servants, veterans comprising 63 percent of all New Yorkers who have served their country, and so much more; and

Thereas, we express great appreciation for the unrivaled volunteerism of New York's older adults who contribute more than 495 million hours of community service each year at an economic value of more than \$13.9 billion; and

Exercise, New York is committed to making our state the best place to grow up in and grow old in a pledge embodied by New York's designation as an age-friendly state, the first state in the nation to receive this distinction from AARP and the World Health Organization; and

Thereas, New York is building on this commitment through its State Master Plan on Aging, a coordinated and comprehensive approach across state agencies and programs to achieve results for older New Yorkers and all residents; and

Exercise, this Master Plan on Aging for older New Yorkers allows older adults to age in place, thrive in dignity and promotes independence while increasing the availability of community based options to those most at risk; and

Thereas, communities across New York State are called upon to recognize and promote the value and contribution of older adults through age-friendly systems and supports that provide for needs across the age spectrum;

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

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

in the Empire State.

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

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Secretary to the Governor

Secretary to the Governor Karen Persichilli Keogh