



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, New York State continues to endure the effects of global climate change and has recently experienced some of the most devastating and fatal weather events in our history, including Hurricane Ida, and the powerful force of its remnants that struck one year ago on September 1, 2021 and tore across New York City through September 3, with intensely torrential rainfall causing massive flooding that ravaged the greater Metropolitan area, Westchester County, and the Hudson Valley, and resulting in the tragic loss of 17 lives of our fellow New Yorkers; and

Whereas, the storm dropped more than three inches of rain on Manhattan's Central Park in just a one hour period, obliterating a record set less than two weeks earlier by Tropical Storm Henri and severely limiting subway services in New York City, as well as large portions of commuter rail services to suburbs suspended; there was also significant impact on other transportation systems, state highways, and local routes that resulted in 92 road closures, impeding access to travel and necessary resources; and

Whereas, the effects of the storm were extensive for approximately 90,000 electric customers over the course of Hurricane Ida's duration, with a peak of 52,000 outages during the early morning hours of September 2, 2021, and the impact in New York City was felt disproportionately in heavily immigrant communities and by those living in vulnerable housing conditions; it not only highlighted the growing urgency for addressing climate change, but also the need to identify utility and infrastructure weaknesses and assess ways to make resiliency improvements to maintain safety, reliability, security, and adaptability to weather extremes; and

Whereas, in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida, New York State government agencies at all levels worked together with the federal government, private sector organizations, and community volunteers to respond to the storm to save lives and protect the health and safety of people in this time of extreme emergency, and this partnership has produced enhanced efforts to increase our preparedness, planning, training, and cooperation; and

Whereas, here in New York, our state agencies are second to none in their expertise and proficiency in leading the response for our residents and communities, and we recognize the ongoing activities and work carried out throughout this past year by the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, Department of Environmental Conservation, Department of Public Service, Department of Transportation, Thruway Authority, New York State Police, Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Governor's Office of Storm Recovery, Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Department of Financial Services, and Department of State; and

Whereas, there is no one area of New York State that is completely safe from the dangers of hurricanes and tropical storms, as demonstrated during Hurricane Ida and other natural disasters occurring in the last few decades, and we are reminded how powerful the forces of nature are and the damaging impact hurricanes and coastal storms can have on our people and our communities; and

Whereas, we remember those souls lost to the events of Hurricane Ida and remain grateful to our hard-working first responders who put their lives on the line daily – sometimes hour-to-hour – and who during Hurricane Ida helped keep individuals and families safe, as well as all those volunteers who were called upon to step up and help their fellow New Yorkers in need; it is this spirit of humanitarian concern and compassion that exemplifies the best aspect of New Yorkers and for which we are all truly thankful;

Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim September 1, 2022 as

HURRICANE IDA REMEMBRANCE DAY

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
September in the year two thousand twenty-two.

Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh

Governor