



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, New York State joins with our entire nation to solemnly commemorate the courageous individuals who, throughout history, served our country in defense of the liberties and rights cherished by those living in America and in countries around the world; and

Whereas, each May, we pause to observe Memorial Day – or Decoration Day as it was originally known – which began as a caring gesture of honor and tribute to those who lost their lives in battle, first initiated in the spring of 1866 by New Yorkers in the upstate community of Waterloo who placed flowers on the graves of fallen soldiers of the Civil War; and

Whereas, now a federal holiday, Memorial Day provides the opportunity to remember all of the patriotic individuals who gave their lives in service to our Nation from its very founding; and

Whereas, the strength and courage of our Nation's military were first tested in the Revolutionary War that secured our country's independence and, since then, countless Americans have stepped forward to preserve our freedom and democracy – a cause that generations have recognized as one that is worthy of their service and sacrifices – despite the tremendous risks to their safety and, indeed, their lives; and

Whereas, as we honor our Nation's war heroes this Memorial Day, we remember all American service members who have died on battlefields in defense of our freedom or that of other countries, and those serving in many capacities of support for our military missions, including hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers who gave their lives for our nation and whose names have been added to America's honor roll of patriots; and

Whereas, in reflecting upon our Nation's losses throughout its history, we give thanks for those Americans who were spared and able to return home to their families and loved ones, and we pray for the safety of all who remain ever vigilant as peacekeepers against threats to our freedom, our way of life, and the safety and security of our homeland; and

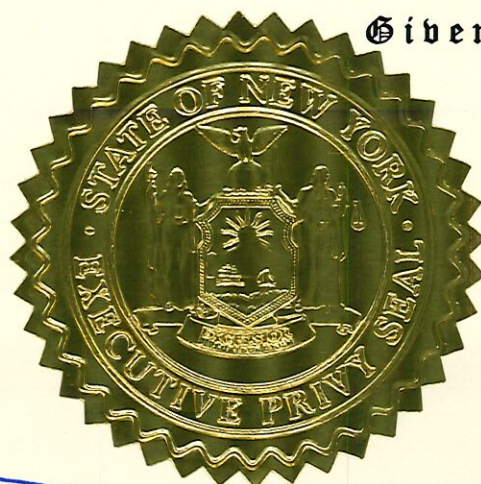
Whereas, we are ever grateful to the generations of Americans who proudly served our country with selfless devotion and gave their lives for our freedom as a people and a country, and we assure the families of our Nation's fallen heroes that the sacrifices of their loved ones, and their own sacrifices, were not in vain;

Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim May 29, 2023 as

MEMORIAL DAY

in the Empire State, and ask each of us to preserve the tradition of remembering those who died in service to our Nation.

G i v e n under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-fourth day of May in the year two thousand twenty-three.



Kathy Hochul
Governor

Karen Persichilli Keogh
Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh