



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

**Whereas**, the global COVID-19 pandemic has magnified the heroic work carried out by individuals across our state and nation, including those who answer the urgent needs of people who are affected by coronavirus, people who require an immediate medical response, and people who require critical care transport to definitive care for their illness – we therefore take this opportunity to honor the community of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) volunteer and career professionals who are a critical safety net within our health system; and

**Whereas**, the COVID-19 pandemic has made it necessary for many healthcare providers to take on new roles to combat the spread of the virus including EMS Providers becoming vaccinators in mass vaccination PODs, Community Paramedics vaccinating home bound patients, and Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics working in hospitals, nursing homes, and urgent care centers to help combat the healthcare staffing shortages and provide care to patients in need; and

**Whereas**, New York is committed to EMS workforce development using innovative EMS educational delivery models, such as the 2022 pilot EMS academy training program that trained over 400 New York National Guard members and 200 civilians as Emergency Medical Technicians in under 8 weeks during the height of the Omicron wave to further increase the number of healthcare providers in our State; and

**Whereas**, EMS is a highly effective response system that utilizes public and private resources to coordinate career and volunteer responders for the provision of urgent medical care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, EMS has provided an unparalleled amount of response services to meet the needs of this health crisis for more than 700 days straight; and

**Whereas**, EMS teams include first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, dispatchers, nurses, physicians, educators, administrators, and various other professionals, many of which are volunteers who generously donate their time, energy, and expertise; and

**Whereas**, each year, over 3,500,000 million calls are handled by EMS providers in communities throughout New York State, with more than 70,000 New York State volunteer and career EMS providers responding at any hour, on any given day, to a call for emergency response and/or medical care; and

**Whereas**, members of EMS teams, both career and volunteer, often place their own lives on the line, by confronting dangerous situations, taking risks, and making sacrifices to help those in dire need and, in many circumstances, saving lives through courageous acts of rescue; and

**Whereas**, across New York State, EMS agencies respond to community needs with greatest efficiency and during this weeklong observance we take the opportunity to recognize the vigilance, selflessness, and invaluable work of EMS providers and thank all members of this critical area of public service who continue to meet unparalleled challenges, knowing that it takes extraordinary individuals in these extraordinary times to compassionately tend to our fellow human beings;

**Now, Therefore**, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim May 15 - 21, 2022 as

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES 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 seventeenth  
day of May in the year two thousand twenty one.

*Kathy Hochul*  
Governor

*Karen Persichilli Keogh*

Secretary to the Governor  
Karen Persichilli Keogh