

BY: Senator GRIFFO

COMMEMORATING the 125th Anniversary of the Pledge
of Allegiance

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to honor and commemorate the proud and distinguished histories of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, The Pledge of Allegiance, written by Francis Bellamy in 1892, received official recognition by the United States Congress on June 22, 1942, when it was included in the United States Flag Code and was last amended on June 14, 1954; and

WHEREAS, Francis Bellamy is a native-son of New York being born in the Town of Mount Morris in 1855; while not born in Rome, New York, he was educated there and considered it home; he was entombed at Rome Cemetery in the City of Rome in 1931, with the words of the Pledge of Allegiance inscribed prominently on his grave marker; and

WHEREAS, The National Bellamy Award Organization was established in 1942, to honor the memory of Francis Bellamy, and to promote the ideals embodied in the historic oath; and

WHEREAS, Spearheading a nationwide effort to commemorate the pledge's 125th Anniversary, the National Bellamy Award Organization's Director, Frank P. DiBerardino III, is focused on teaching young people the significance of responsible citizenship, community service, civic duty, volunteerism, and the impact the historic oath has had on the social and cultural fabric of America; and

WHEREAS, The words of the Pledge of Allegiance, recognized in the hearts of Americans throughout this vast nation, are recited, "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."; and

WHEREAS, These words express our dedication to the ideals of liberty and justice for all and remind us that every glory we associate with the Flag is the result of duty done; and

WHEREAS, These words serve to express our gratitude to the generations past and present who have fought and died for this country and to recall our obligation to preserve the freedom others have by their sacrifice won for us; and

WHEREAS, The members of the New York State Legislature begin each legislative session by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to joyously commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the Pledge of Allegiance;

and be it further

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause further to reaffirm our commitment to the ideals of freedom, liberty and justice embodied in the Pledge of Allegiance; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Frank P. DiBerardino III, Director, National Bellamy Award Organization.