

BY: Senator GRIFFO

COMMEMORATING the 225th Anniversary of the Augusta
Presbyterian Church of Oriskany Falls, New York

WHEREAS, Religious institutions, and the many spiritual, social, and educational benefits they confer, play a vital role in the development of the moral fabric of a responsible citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is the tradition of this State and this Nation to pay tribute to those institutions and individuals who have contributed to the ethical and spiritual values of their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 225th Anniversary of the Augusta Presbyterian Church of Oriskany Falls, New York; and

WHEREAS, The history of the church began when a Congregational society was formed in Augusta's log school on September 7, 1797, with nine charter members; and

WHEREAS, A log school house stood on the west side of the road that runs north from what is now known as Newells' Corners; it was in that schoolhouse that the Congregational Church was formed by Reverends Asabell North of Clinton and Joel Bradley of Westmoreland; and

WHEREAS, During Augusta Presbyterian Church's humble beginnings, services were held in private homes, schoolhouses, barns, and outside in the open air; from 1805 until 1816, the congregation worshiped in the Town Hall; and

WHEREAS, The present building, located in Oriskany Falls, was completed in 1816, and the Augusta Presbyterian Church was officially dedicated on February 3, 1817; and

WHEREAS, Four churches were formed out of the Augusta Presbyterian Church, including the Oriskany Falls and Deansboro Congregational Churches, and the Knoxboro Presbyterian Church; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, Augusta Presbyterian Church has grown to include an active Sunday School and Vacation Bible School; and

WHEREAS, Today, Augusta Presbyterian Church stands on the threshold of tomorrow, prepared to meet the challenges of the coming decades, while retaining that spiritual resolve which has so characterized its glorious past; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to take note of enduring religious institutions and to bring such institutions to the attention of the people of this Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 225th Anniversary of Augusta Presbyterian Church of Oriskany Falls, New York, confident that this commemoration reflects the belief in those values which enhance the dignity and purpose of life; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Augusta Presbyterian Church of Oriskany Falls, New York.