

BY: M. of A. Buttenschon

COMMEMORATING the 200th Anniversary of the Utica St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 16, 2024

WHEREAS, Saint Patrick's Day is a time for all to celebrate the rich heritage of the Irish people, unlimited in their contributions to this greatly diverse State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, A Saint Patrick's Day parade reflects and records the ongoing history of the United States and Ireland, and provides an opportunity for people of all generations to assemble in ethnic pride and pageantry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of the Utica St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 16, 2024; and

WHEREAS, The tradition of the Utica St. Patrick's Day Parade is steeped in 200 years of history, with John C. Devereux leading the first march down the Historic Brewery and Arts District of Utica; today, the Utica Parade draws around 30,000 spectators, as over 5,000 marchers from across the state step off from Oneida Square and head north to Genesee Street; this parade is notably the third largest parade in New York State; and

WHEREAS, The annual Passing of the Shillelagh to the 2024 grand marshal will be held Saturday, March 9, 2024, at the Irish Cultural Center of the Mohawk Valley located on Columbia Street in Utica; and

WHEREAS, The newly-named grand marshal will help paint the iconic green line down Genesee Street in Downtown Utica, marking the parade route the day prior to the parade; and

WHEREAS, Additionally, a Mass honoring St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, March 15, 2024, at St. Joseph St. Patrick Church on Columbia Street; and

WHEREAS, Through this heartfelt and compassionate expression, as well as through their sustained commitment to the cultural vitality of their Irish heritage, the Irish-American people of the Utica area and the State of New York bear witness to the deep faith and love of humanity which is their rich tradition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of the Utica St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 16, 2024; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the members of the Utica St. Patrick's Day Parade

Committee.