

BY: M. of A. Buttenschon

COMMEMORATING the 110th Anniversary of the Union
Station in Utica, New York on May 24, 2024

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across the great State of New York is reflective of certain exemplary organizations whose purpose is dedicated to serving the community and the needs of its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 110th Anniversary of the Union Station in Utica, New York on May 24, 2024; and

WHEREAS, An iconic landmark and centerpiece of the city's transportation and social scene for over a century, the Union Station was originally built in 1914; it served as a transportation hub for the New York Central Railroad and later Amtrak, still serving as a stop for Amtrak's Adirondack, Empire Service, and Maple Leaf routes; and

WHEREAS, The Union Station was designed by the renowned architect, Allen H. Stem, who is known for designing other notable train stations such as New York City's Grand Central Terminal and Buffalo's Union Station; the design of Union Station was inspired by the Roman Renaissance and Beaux-Arts styles of architecture, which are characterized by their grandeur and ornate details; and

WHEREAS, A bustling transportation hub for travelers every day, the Union Station is a beloved cultural space in the Utica community, hosting various events and festivals throughout the year; in addition to serving as a transportation hub and event space, the Union Station is also home to the Utica Children's Museum, which offers hands-on exhibits and educational programs for children of all ages and is a popular destination for families visiting the area; and

WHEREAS, Supporting the community through hard times in history, during World War II, the station saw an increase in traffic as soldiers and military personnel passed through on their way to various training facilities and military bases; and

WHEREAS, The Union Station is exquisite, featuring ornate stone carvings and a clock tower on the exterior, while the interior boasts elegant marble floors and towering columns; in recent years, the Station has undergone extensive renovations to restore its historic features and update its facilities, including improvements to the heating and cooling systems, the installation of new elevators, and the restoration of the station's iconic clock tower; and

WHEREAS, As a symbol of Utica's rich history and cultural heritage, the Union Station remains a beloved landmark in the city; its ornate

architecture and storied past serve as a reminder of the important role that train travel played in the development of American cities and the enduring legacy of historic buildings; and

WHEREAS, A vital part of its community, this remarkable institution has continually strived to provide outstanding service, focusing on education, recreation, and social inclusion, to a diverse population of neighborhood residents; and

WHEREAS, The success achieved by the Union Station is in direct correlation to the efforts of its leadership and the many individuals who have supported the development of the Station over the years; and

WHEREAS, Steeped in a proud and distinguished history, the Union Station may take just pride in its purposeful growth, as it looks forward to continuing to serve the educational, cultural, and intellectual needs of the Utica community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 110th Anniversary of the Union Station in Utica, New York on May 24, 2024; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Union Station in Utica, New York.