

Senate Resolution No. 1702

**BY:** Senator COONEY

**COMMEMORATING** the 175th Anniversary of Albany Law School

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those exemplary institutions of higher education within the State of New York for their enduring commitment to the pursuit of academic excellence; and

**WHEREAS,** This Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 175th Anniversary of Albany Law School, to be celebrated on April 17, 2026, in Albany, New York; and

**WHEREAS,** Albany Law School was established on April 17, 1851, and is the oldest independent law school in the nation; and

**WHEREAS,** Albany Law School was founded, initially as an experiment, by Amos Dean, Ira Harris, and Amasa J. Parker; the trio imagined a law school that was more than memorization, but rather a place that transformed the classroom into a place of inquiry, dialogue, and preparation for real-world practice through an informal clerkship model with structured lectures and faculty-led study; and

**WHEREAS,** In the 175 years since its founding, Albany Law School has become a world-renowned institution for the study of law, shown an established commitment to serving the Capital Region community and New York State through pro bono efforts and community engagement, and has educated thousands of lawyers and legal professionals ranging from, but not limited to, those in the private sector, the public sector, including legislators, legislative staff, members of the executive branch, and members of the judiciary; and

**WHEREAS,** The impact of Albany Law School on the practice of law is seen nationwide through influential faculty scholarship, landmark cases litigated by our graduates, and through alumni serving in public service roles and for adjacent and relevant agencies; and

**WHEREAS,** Albany Law School continues to innovate and expand offerings within its mission through clinical learning experiences in the Edward P. Swyer Justice Center, public service and research opportunities in the Government Law Center, numerous internships and externship offerings, accessible academic programs like the Flex Juris Doctor program and fully online Master's and LL.M offerings; and

**WHEREAS,** With great admiration, this Legislative Body is proud to pay tribute to this eminent institution which stands at the threshold of the future with its legacy of outstanding achievements and its impressive body of distinguished alumni; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 175th Albany Law School; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Government Law Center Director Patrick Wildes and Albany Law School President and Dean, Cinnamon Carlarne.