Assembly Resolution No. 1407

**BY:** M. of A. Buttenschon

**COMMENDING** the Oneida County History Center upon the occasion of celebrating its 150th Anniversary in 2026

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body, in keeping with its time-honored traditions, to recognize and pay tribute to those organizations that embrace the historical significance and contributions of their localities which strengthen the fabric of the communities of New York State; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Oneida County History Center upon the occasion of celebrating its 150th Anniversary in 2026; and

**WHEREAS,** Founded in 1876 by a group of influential citizens in Oneida County, New York, the Oneida County History Center, originally named the Oneida County Historical Society, has always been driven by the mission to document, collect, preserve, and share the rich history of Oneida County and its surrounding communities; and

**WHEREAS,** The excitement surrounding history during the Nation's centennial celebration inspired residents to found the Oneida County History Center; as the United States celebrates its 250th year, the Oneida County History Center continues to foster an excitement and passion for history; and

**WHEREAS,** Since its inception, many significant individuals have become members of the Oneida County History Center, including Horatio Seymour, who served as governor of New York and was appointed as the organization's first president; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1879, the Oneida County History Center established its first headquarters in a newly built library; during its early years, the organization initiated many projects, including the 100th anniversary celebration of the Battle of Oriskany, the construction of the Oriskany Monument, and the development of a marker at the site of Old Fort Schuyler; and

**WHEREAS,** As the Oneida County History Center continued to grow, the organization moved to the newly constructed Munson-Williams Memorial building at 600 Park Avenue in 1896; and

**WHEREAS,** After moving to its new headquarters, the Oneida County History Center was able to grow its library and artifact collection, hold public lectures, and establish the "Hall of Fame of Oneida County," which began in 1946; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1988, the Oneida County History Center purchased its current home at 1608 Genesee Street in Utica, New York; formerly home to

the Church of Christ, Scientists, the Oneida County History Center was careful to retain many original features of the building during

renovations, including its Roman square windows, brass neoclassical light fixtures, and stained-glass windows; and

**WHEREAS,** Due to its historical significance and intentional preservation, the building currently housing the Oneida County History Center at 1608 Genesee Street, which began construction in 1914, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on April 28, 2023; and

**WHEREAS,** With a desire to make clear that the organization is committed to welcoming and involving all members of the public, the name "Oneida County History Center" was adopted in January 2017, replacing the original "Historical Society" title; and

**WHEREAS,** Over its distinguished 150-year history, the Oneida County History Center has demonstrated continuous service to the residents and communities which it serves; and

**WHEREAS,** The success of the Oneida County History Center is in direct correlation to the efforts of its dedicated past and present board members, staff, and volunteers, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the organization and the community it serves; and

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

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Oneida County History Center upon the occasion of celebrating its 150th Anniversary in 2026; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Oneida County History Center.