

Senate Resolution No. 1984

**BY:** Senator GRIFFO

**COMMENDING** Rome Free Academy upon the occasion of celebrating its 150th commencement on June 29, 2019

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those institutions of commitment and high achievement whose purpose and endeavors prove a dedication to the pursuit of excellence in the education of the youth of this noble Empire State; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Rome Free Academy upon the occasion of celebrating its 150th commencement at the Stadium on Saturday, June 29, 2019; and

**WHEREAS,** The 150th graduating class from Rome Free Academy will commemorate this auspicious milestone with a time capsule to be buried in front of the school at Griffiss park on Friday, June 28, 2019; the capsule will be opened in 50 years; and

**WHEREAS,** The capsule includes letters from students and staff; Rome Free Academy yearbook and graduation program, clothing, and mementos; photos; tickets from the junior prom and senior ball; current news; currency with a 2019 date; programs from school musicals; and sports memorabilia such as a baseball signed by all seniors; and

**WHEREAS,** The students involved in this momentous project include officers from the Student Association, John George, President; Maddy DeCarolis, Vice President; Maria Keeney, Treasurer; Kaitlyn Mastracco, Secretary; and Class of 2019 officers, Benjamin McMonagle, President; Tejas Desai, Vice President; Tyrin Tennant, Treasurer; and Eddie Long, Secretary; and

**WHEREAS,** Established in the 1840s, Rome Academy was a privately owned school which charged tuition; in 1869, a union free school district with a Board of Education was created, and the name was changed to Rome Free Academy; and

**WHEREAS,** For 150 years, Rome Free Academy has strived to ensure that all of its students have access to a high-quality education which prepares them for the rigors of college and the workforce; and

**WHEREAS,** The steadfast and unyielding commitment of parents, educators and administrators to provide the highest quality education for students has become the hallmark and tradition of Rome Free Academy; and

**WHEREAS,** Rome Free Academy is proudly aware of its distinguished past, eager to fulfill its present commitment to parents, students and the community, and planning with vision and purpose for the ebb and swell of growth and change it will encounter in the years to come; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Rome Free Academy upon the occasion of celebrating its 150th commencement on June 29, 2019; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the aforementioned officers, and Brian LeBaron, Principal, Rome Free Academy.