

BY: Senator GRIFFO

COMMEMORATING the 75th Anniversary of Utica College

WHEREAS, New York State's commitment to education is unparalleled; its history and stature are secured by the superlative caliber of its educational professionals and the students they inspire; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those institutions of true purpose and high achievement whose exemplary programs and accomplishments clearly demonstrate an enduring pursuit of excellence in higher education for the young adults 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 commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Utica College; and

WHEREAS, The leaders of the City of Utica and Syracuse University formally announce the opening of Utica College at a community dinner held at the Hotel Utica on September 16, 1946; and

WHEREAS, Two weeks later, the inaugural Convocation ceremony was held in the sanctuary of Plymouth Church, officially starting Utica College's first academic year; and

WHEREAS, On October 19, 1961, the Burrstone Road campus was formally dedicated, concluding the move from Oneida Square to the College's new permanent location; and

WHEREAS, By 1978, Utica College was independently accredited; and

WHEREAS, Utica College was afforded governance and autonomy as an independently chartered institution in 1995; and

WHEREAS, On October 17, 2008, Syracuse University and Utica College publicly announced Utica's transition to full independence, fulfilling the founding promise of a freestanding four-year college in the City of Utica; and

WHEREAS, Utica College seized the initiative among America's colleges and universities in addressing affordability by reducing its tuition price by 42% on September 15, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Steeped in a proud and distinguished history, Utica College may look back with pride upon its humble beginnings, find just satisfaction in its purposeful growth and hold true of purpose in its dedication to serving the educational needs of its students; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Utica College, noting the propriety of its goals, the dependability of its commitment, and the significance of its accomplishments; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Laura Casamento, the first female President in the history of Utica College.