

BY: Senator O'MARA

COMMEMORATING the 150th Anniversary of the Fred & Harriett Taylor Memorial Library

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those institutions of high purpose and worthy accomplishment whose endeavors have faithfully served the citizens of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Fred & Harriett Taylor Memorial Library, to be celebrated on Saturday, April 25, 2026; and

WHEREAS, The Fred & Harriett Taylor Memorial Library was founded in 1876 in Hammondsport, New York, by a group of dedicated citizens; in its beginnings, the library was merely a single shelf of 388 volumes located in a local drug store; and

WHEREAS, Since its founding, the Fred & Harriett Taylor Memorial Library has moved 6 times; it began as a shelf in a drug store, then operated out of two school buildings from 1896-1935, then to a location on Shether Street before moving to a building on Lake Street, and finally, in 2005, a group of citizens led by Katherine Meade raised funds for the library to open its own independent building and current home in 2007; and

WHEREAS, Throughout its long history, the Fred & Harriett Taylor Memorial Library has been a reliable resource for literature, information, and community needs; in addition to checking out books, the library is proud to provide movies, video games, passes to local museums, fishing poles, electronic equipment, games, and much more; and

WHEREAS, The Fred & Harriett Taylor Memorial Library is committed to providing services beyond borrowing materials, and they do this by offering over 500 programs a year covering subjects such as local interests, history, arts & crafts, music, literacy, education, and environmental studies; and

WHEREAS, The programs and services at the Fred & Harriett Taylor Memorial Library are curated for everyone of all ages and backgrounds, and the library intentionally collaborates with the local school, scouts, museums, social services, and other community organizations; and

WHEREAS, The staff and librarians at the Fred & Harriett Taylor Memorial Library have a strong commitment to supporting everyone that enters the library, and oftentimes staff can be found connecting citizens with hotlines, care, services, and community resources; and

WHEREAS, Over its distinguished 150-year history, the Fred & Harriett Taylor Memorial Library has demonstrated continuous service to

the residents and communities which it serves; through its resources and community programming, the library successfully mirrors the creative, innovative, and thoughtful community of Hammondsport; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Fred & Harriett Taylor Memorial Library 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 Fred & Harriett Taylor Memorial Library 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 commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Fred & Harriett Taylor Memorial Library, celebrating its remarkable history, achievements, and contributions to its community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Fred & Harriett Memorial Library.