

BY: Senator O'MARA

COMMENDING Six Nations Cemetery in the Town of Orange, New York upon the occasion of its addition to the New York State Historic Registry

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of those organizations and individuals who seek to bring recognition to historical places within the State of New York, and in doing so, help to ensure that the complete history of our State and Nation is preserved and shared with present generations of citizens; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Six Nations Cemetery in the Town of Orange, New York upon the occasion of its addition to the New York State Historic Registry in March 2026; and

WHEREAS, Six Nations Cemetery is the resting place of 119 individuals, five of whom are veterans: David Bevier, serving in the American Revolution and the War of 1812; John Rappleye, War of 1812; George Shannon, Civil War; Zenas Preston, Civil War, and Isaac Potter, Civil War; and

WHEREAS, A dedication ceremony to honor the aforementioned veterans, in conjunction with the celebration of America's 250th anniversary, will be held Saturday, September 12, 2026, at the Six Nations Cemetery; and

WHEREAS, At this meaningful ceremony, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the War of 1812 Daughters, and the Union Civil War Daughters will present plaques recognizing each veteran's military service; and

WHEREAS, The Six Nations Cemetery occupies a prominent location in the Town of Orange at the pinnacle of Kelly Hill, within a rectangular-shaped parcel that extends southward from Kelly Hill Road; the parcel is bounded to the south in large part by the Finger Lakes Trail; to the west is an open field and to the east is County Road 22; and

WHEREAS, The name Six Nations applied more broadly to the surrounding community and was perhaps chosen to reflect the varying nationalities of the settlers and to acknowledge the Seneca nation of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, also known as The Confederacy of Six Nations, who occupied the land prior to Euro-American displacement; and

WHEREAS, With a truly deep and storied history, the extant gravestones at Six Nations Cemetery mark burials ranging from the year 1818 up to 1910; more than half the gravestones at the cemetery are dated prior to the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, The maintenance, restoration, and prosperity of Six Nations Cemetery, as well as the remarkable efforts to secure its place in the

New York State Historic Registry, are due in part to support of The Town of Orange, local Boy Scout Troop No. 45, and the Orange Town Supervisor; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is pleased to have this opportunity to express its highest admiration for the committed organizations and individuals who have worked to bring proper attention to a place and time which merits recognition in the grand panorama of the history of our State and Nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Six Nations Cemetery in the Town of Orange, New York upon the occasion of its addition to the New York State Historic Registry.