

## 2015-J425

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring the University at Albany upon the occasion of hosting its Fourteenth Annual Unity Dinner

WHEREAS, It is the tradition of this State and this Nation to pay tribute to those institutions and individuals who have contributed to the ethical and spiritual values of their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor the University at Albany upon the occasion of hosting its Fourteenth Annual Unity Dinner which was celebrated on Wednesday, December 3, 2014; and

WHEREAS, For more than a decade, staff and students at the University at Albany have attended a unique event known as the Unity Dinner; and

WHEREAS, Each year, the Unity Dinner offers students and staff of diverse faiths an opportunity to learn about the various celebrations and observances during the holiday season and at other times of the year; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed celebration is organized by the Interfaith Center, an organization which brings together students for prayer, study and the understanding of other faiths; and

WHEREAS, The 2014 Unity Dinner participants included the UA Interfaith Coalition, the Cornerstone Protestant Campus Ministry, Hillel, the Muslim Student Association, the Newman Catholic Association and YesPlus; and

WHEREAS, During the Unity Dinner festivities, students and staff participated in various activities held by the University at Albany's many faith and cultural organizations, which introduce them to the various customs observed; and

WHEREAS, As students prepare for late night sessions to study for finals, the Unity Dinner is an entertaining event with a purpose, and a

clear demonstration of the fact that our similarities outnumber our differences; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when associations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor the University at Albany upon the occasion of hosting its Fourteenth Annual Unity Dinner; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Interfaith Center, University at Albany.