RECOGNIZING the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Friends of Libraries Section of the New York Library Association

WHEREAS, Libraries are the cornerstone of the community, essential to democracy and provide opportunities for all to engage in lifelong learning and connect with others, and

WHEREAS, Friends of the Library groups understand the importance of well-funded libraries and advocate to ensure that libraries get the resources they need to provide a comprehensive array of specialized services for all ages, including access to materials in a wide variety of formats, expert guidance in research, and readers’ advisory assistance; and

WHEREAS, Friends of the Library groups provide volunteers and direct financial assistance to enhance library resources for extra programming, special events, equipment, furnishings, and other items outside the scope of the library’s annual operating budget, and

WHEREAS, the Library Friends Roundtable was established in October 1992 at the New York Library Association’s Annual Conference in Lake Placid to provide a forum for an exchange of information, to promote cooperative efforts among individuals, and be active in community Friends groups, to encourage and assist in the establishment of new Friends groups across New York, and

WHEREAS, the extraordinarily dedicated members of the Friends of Libraries are exceptional examples of how volunteerism can lead to positive civic engagement and the betterment of local communities, now, therefore,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Council of the New York Library Association recognize the Friends of Libraries Section for 30 years of persistent effort in fulfilling their mission to create a network to connect and inspire Friends groups in all types of libraries to support the New York library community.

FURTHERMORE, we implore our colleagues throughout the State to observe this anniversary year with appropriate activities and recognitions of their local Friends of the Library organizations, in order to raise awareness and appreciation of volunteer support of libraries.

Passed unanimously by NYLA Council, this third day of February, two thousand and twenty two.