

RESOLUTION NO. 243

AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF AN ALBANY COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERY

Introduced: 6/8/26

By Perlee:

WHEREAS, It is the sense of the Albany County Legislature that the men and women who have served in our nation's Armed Forces are worthy of recognition and benefits for their selfless service in defense of our Country and County; and

WHEREAS, The provision of an appropriate burial site in a dignified, public resting place is a veteran's benefit afforded by many Counties to the men and women who served, while also affording the general public with a place of commemoration and repose suitable to honor the memory of such persons; and

WHEREAS, The Soldiers' Lot and American Legion Section of the privately owned and operated Albany Rural Cemetery are the only known spaces dedicated to the burial of veterans in Albany County; and

WHEREAS, The Rural Cemetery Soldiers' Lot has been closed to new internments since 1897, and the American Legion Section is similarly space-limited; and

WHEREAS, Upstate New York is home to several County-owned-and-operated Veterans Cemeteries including facilities in Orange, Onondaga, Ulster, Rockland and Sullivan Counties, and such facilities offer veterans burial plots in addition to those offered at National Veterans Cemeteries near those counties; and

WHEREAS, The closest National Cemetery to Albany County is located in rural Saratoga County at a distance that presents an inconvenience and hardship to the families of Albany County's veterans; and

WHEREAS, It is recognized that within Albany County existing municipally-owned cemeteries have room or the ability to expand so as to readily provide the County with the space and shared operational responsibility necessary for the creation and operation of an Albany County Veterans Memorial Cemetery, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the Albany County Legislature that Albany County is hereby authorized to create an Albany County Veterans Memorial Cemetery, and, be it further resolved that the County shall be authorized to enter into a long term lease, purchase and operational agreement with any City, Town or Village within the County that presently owns and operates a cemetery in a location that meets the County's need and interest for current and future veteran's burial space, public access for purposes of repose and commemoration and centrality of location within the County relative to land area and centers of population, and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Office of the Albany County Executive and Veterans Service Bureau.