Resolution
to support
Enactment of the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act
in the State of New York

WHEREAS, the Association of Law Libraries of Upstate New York believes that permanent public access to official, authentic legal information is critical to the legal system of the state of New York; and

WHEREAS, the Association of Law Libraries of Upstate New York holds that information published on government websites must be trustworthy and reliable; and

WHEREAS, the Association of Law Libraries of Upstate New York promotes the idea that information on government websites must be preserved and permanently accessible, and offered to the public without charge whenever possible; and

WHEREAS, the Association of Law Libraries of Upstate New York has found that the state of New York has not yet met their responsibilities to provide trustworthy, reliable access to online legal information; and

WHEREAS, the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act promulgated by the Uniform Law Commission provides a technology-neutral, outcomes-based approach to ensuring that online state legal material deemed official will be preserved and will be permanently available to the public in unaltered form; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires that if legal material is published only in electronic form, it must be designated official; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires that electronic legal material that has been designated official must be capable of being authenticated, preserved and permanently accessible to the public; and

WHEREAS, members of the Association of Law Libraries of Upstate New York have advocated for adoption of the Act and have supported similar efforts of its parent organization, the American Association of Law Libraries; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Association of Law Libraries of Upstate New York supports enactment of the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act in the state of New York and in all other states throughout the United States; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Association of Law Libraries of Upstate New York encourages all local chapters of the American Association of Law Libraries throughout the state of New York and other interested associations to adopt this resolution.

RESOLVED, that the Association of Law Libraries of Upstate New York transmit a copy of this resolution to the Uniform Law Commission, New York State Bar Association, state officials, and others as appropriate.

Endorsed by vote of the Board of the Association of Law Libraries of Upstate New York on the 19th day of October, 2014.