

**A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY  
LEGISLATORS LORIGO, MILLS, RATH, AND TODARO**

**Re: Opposition to the Infringement of the New York State Fair on the Erie County Fair**

**WHEREAS**, last year the Erie County Fair had record attendance with over 1.2 million visitors. This attendance record put the Erie County Fair as the 12<sup>th</sup> most attended fair in the nation, just three places behind New York's state fair. For 2020, the Erie County Fair intends to be in operation August 12-23; and

**WHEREAS**, with over 100,000 guests attending the fair each day, the fair's social and economic impact to not just the Town of Hamburg but to the County of Erie as a whole cannot be overstated; and

**WHEREAS**, for 2020, without any warning, Governor Cuomo stated he will provide additional funding to the New York State fair to extend its days of operation to a total of eighteen (18). The increased time will overlap with the end of the Erie County Fair, which is typically the time the fair sees the most attendance; and

**WHEREAS**, it is a finding of this body that the time overlap between the state and county fairs will create a substantial hardship for vendors and agricultural displays that traditionally show at both fairs; and

**WHEREAS**, it is a further finding of this body that the impact to the vendors will be carried over to the residents who attend the fair, as many of the vendors that would typically attend both events may now be forced to choose one fair or the other; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to the decision being made by the Governor's office, there was little to no communication with the representatives of the local fairs nor was there any information shared with the New York State Association of Agricultural Fairs in an effort to find a compromise that works for everyone; and

**WHEREAS**, both the Erie County Fair and the Association of Agricultural Fairs issued a joint release expressing their concerns, shared by this honorable body, about the extension of the timing for the state fair and its impact on the Erie County Fair and the vendors who would prefer to attend both fairs.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that this honorable body hereby urges the Governor of New York to reconsider an extension to the New York State Fair that would overlap with the times and dates of the Erie County Fair; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this honorable body goes on record requesting the New York State Legislature act to prevent the encroachment of the New York State Fair, held in Syracuse, on the dates and times of the Erie County Fair, held in Hamburg New York; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that, in the event the Governor or the Legislature cannot come to an agreement regarding the operation of the state fair, this honorable body urges the Director of the New York's state fair to take action to mitigate the potential harm to the Erie County fair and its vendors; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Andrew Cuomo, the Western New York Delegation to the New York State Legislature, the Director of the state fair Troy Waffner, and any other party deemed necessary and proper.

Fiscal Impact: None for Resolution