



# ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

**HON. JOHN J. MILLS**  
CHAIRMAN OF THE LEGISLATURE  
11<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT LEGISLATOR

July 31, 2014

Honorable Mark Poloncarz  
County Executive  
95 Franklin St. – 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Executive Poloncarz,

As of the last legislative session day, July 24, 2014, the Legislature has not received any indication that your office will be issuing a Declaration of Need authorizing the Comptroller's office to allow the Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority to borrow on behalf of Erie County. As a result, the Legislature had no choice but to authorize the Comptroller's request to conduct borrowing without the Declaration of Need, forcing the borrowing to be done directly by the County.

A recent unsolicited rating by Fitch has maintained Erie County's rating as being lower than that of the Control Board. As you are well aware, this will ultimately lead to increased borrowing costs for Erie County taxpayers. According to the Comptroller's estimates, the County will be looking at increased borrowing costs from anywhere between \$800,000 and \$1,100,000 simply because you refused to issue a Declaration of Need.

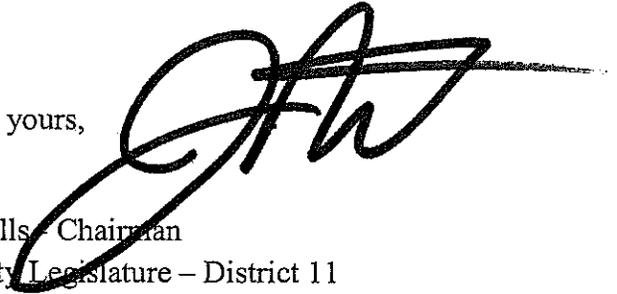
The Legislature would like to reiterate the point that you made abundantly clear during your time as comptroller; Erie County should borrow from whichever entity imposes the lowest cost on the taxpayers. The Legislature fully endorses that point as evidenced by the resolution unanimously passed at our session on June 26, 2014. To this point, all the evidence indicates that the Control Board conducting the borrowing would be cheaper. Your failure to timely issue a Declaration of Need will cost taxpayers additional funds that could be better spent otherwise.

In closing, we request that you fulfill your duty to the taxpayers of Erie County, and immediately issue the Declaration of Need allowing the Control Board to borrow on behalf of Erie County in order to avoid higher financing costs.

Your immediate response is appreciated since time is running out. The Legislature would like to approve the Declaration of Need at our special session tentatively scheduled for Thursday, August 7, 2014.

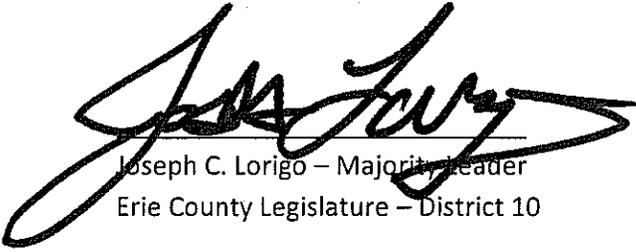
Attached you will find a petition of support for this letter from the Erie County Legislature. We look forward to your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

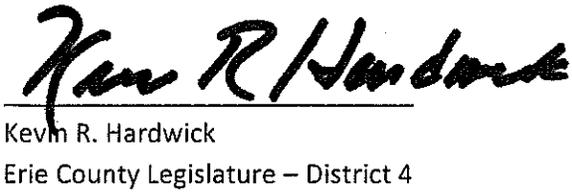
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Mills', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

John J. Mills - Chairman  
Erie County Legislature - District 11

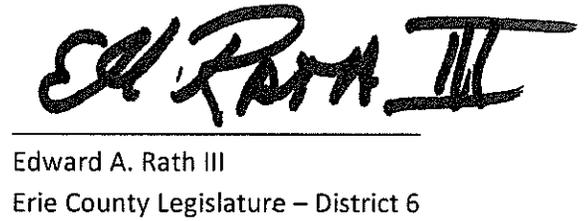
Re: Petition supporting letter from the Chairman of the Erie County Legislature requesting the County Executive issue a Declaration of Need to allow the ECFSA to conduct borrowing on behalf of Erie County.



Joseph C. Lorigo – Majority Leader  
Erie County Legislature – District 10



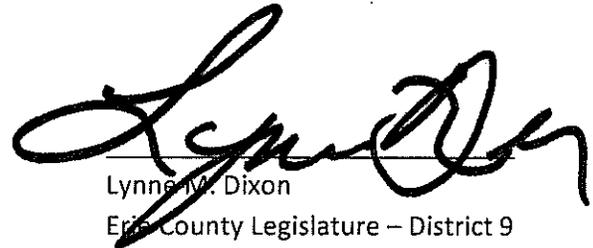
Kevin R. Hardwick  
Erie County Legislature – District 4



Edward A. Rath III  
Erie County Legislature – District 6



Ted B. Morton  
Erie County Legislature – District 8



Lynne M. Dixon  
Erie County Legislature – District 9