

**A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED  
BY LEGISLATORS GRANT, MAZUR, HOGUES, MARINELLI,  
LOUGHRAN & McCracken**

**RE: Calling on the United States House of Representatives to Approve The Middle Class Tax Cut Act**

WHEREAS, on January 1, 2013, taxes for all Americans will increase unless the Congress and the President come to an agreement to avoid the "fiscal cliff"; and

WHEREAS, a meaningful, good faith step in the right direction is passage by the House of Representatives of a bill that has already passed the U.S. Senate, to wit, *The Middle Class Tax Cut Act of 2011*; and

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama has pledged to sign this bill into law as soon as it reaches his desk; and

WHEREAS, economists of all political persuasions have warned of the substantial negative impact on the U.S. economy if the 2% payroll tax cut for employees expires on December 31, 2012; and

WHEREAS, some economists have asserted that failure to extend the Social Security Payroll Tax Cut, which has an impact on 160 million working Americans, could push the economy back into recession; and

WHEREAS, economists predict the average middle class family would lose between \$1,500- \$2,500 in take home pay in 2013, causing families to scale back their spending, which in turn, hurts business sales and business profits; and

WHEREAS, this drag on consumer spending is the last thing the U.S. economy needs as it emerges from the darkest days of the housing crisis, Wall Street excesses and the deepest recession to grip this nation since the Great Depression; and

WHEREAS, according to Ameriprise Financial, continuation of the Payroll Tax Cut for workers could add as many as 1,000,000 jobs to the U.S. economy; and

WHEREAS, following passage of a payroll tax cut for employers – another provision of *The Middle Class Tax Cut Act* – another 200,000 jobs could be created nationwide; and

WHEREAS, consumer spending accounts for 70% of GDP, more than double the spending of business and government combined; and

WHEREAS, the fastest route to economic recovery is to put more money in the hands of American workers, which will benefit the bottom line of businesses across the nation; and

WHEREAS, passage of *The Middle Class Tax Cut Act* – which would benefit 98% of the taxpayers, both individuals and businesses, in the United States is the most important piece of legislation to be enacted for the primary purpose of job retention and creation, employment that will fuel our nation’s economic engine, thereby extending opportunity and prosperity to not only the middle class, but to all Americans.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature convey its strong support for passage of *The Middle Class Tax Cut Act* by the U.S. House of Representatives; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be conveyed to President Barack Obama, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, Speaker of the House of Representatives John Boehner, Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, the WNY Congressional Delegation and all others deemed necessary and proper.

FISCAL IMPACT: Positive for the American Economy and the Economy of Erie County.