

**Resolution No. 146**

Supervisors BORN AND FAGAN offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO  
REPEAL A PORTION OF THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND  
SURCHARGE THAT PROVIDES FREE CELLULAR TELEPHONE  
SERVICE TO "INCOME ELIGIBLE" INDIVIDUALS**

WHEREAS, Federal laws are in place that authorize the Federal Communication Commission to administer a "Universal Service Fund", which is funded through the collection of "Universal Connectivity Charge" surcharges on telephone bills; and

WHEREAS, through collection of this surcharge, Telecommunications companies are subsidized to provide taxpayer-funded cellular telephone services to individuals deemed "income-eligible". "Income Eligible" qualifications are incomes up to 135% of the federal poverty level; those who receive Medicaid, Food Stamps, Supplemental Security Income, federal public housing, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or free lunch through the federal school lunch program; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that annual expenditures on Universal Service Fund programs have increased 86% during the last decade; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors herby urges Congressional representatives to introduce legislation to repeal the portion of the Universal Service Fund authorizing statutes that require free cellular service to individuals through federal subsidies; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the County Treasurer, Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Congressman Paul Tonko, Congressman William Owens, Senator Hugh Farley, Assemblyman Marc Butler, All Counties, Federal Communications Commission Chairman Julius Genachowski and Administrative Officer/Clerk of the Board.

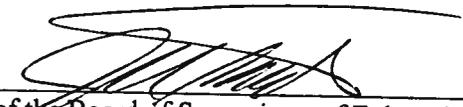
Seconded by Supervisor HOWARD and adopted by the following vote:

TOTAL: Ayes: 17 Nays: 0 Absent: 3 (Supervisors DiGiacomo, Kinowski and Ottuso)

STATE OF NEW YORK }  
COUNTY OF FULTON } ss:

I, Jon R. Stead, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of Fulton County hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of said County, at a duly called and held meeting of said Board on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of APRIL 2012, and the same is a true and correct transcript therefrom and the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and official seal  
this 9<sup>th</sup> day of APRIL 2012

  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of Fulton County