

ERIE COUNTY
Board of Elections

134 West Eagle Street
 Buffalo, New York 14202

Ralph M. Mohr, *Commissioner*
 Dennis E. Ward, *Commissioner*

September 22, 2011

Erie County Legislature
 92 Franklin Street
 Buffalo, New York 14202

Re: Grant Contracts: HHS 2010, HHS 2011 Voting Access for
 Individuals with disabilities

Honorable Members:

The New York State board of Elections has forwarded two new grants' contract to the Erie County Board of Elections for approval and execution. A summary of the two contracts is as follows:

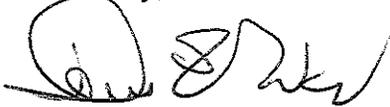
The State of New York on behalf of the Federal HHS seeks to enter into agreement with the Erie County Board of Elections to improve polling place access in order to expand participation in the election process by individuals with a full range of disabilities.

The grants are "reimbursement based" contracts limited to the sum of \$63,720.00 and do not require a local match.

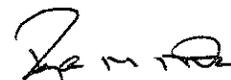
We are requesting your **immediate consideration and approval** of the aforementioned contracts authorizing the Commissioners of the Erie County Board of Elections to accept and execute these agreements. The County Attorney has reviewed the original contracts and subject to the requisite approvals believes them to be proper form. A proposed legislative resolution is attached.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. Should your Honorable Body requires further information, kindly contact the Board of Elections and we will be happy to accommodate your request.

Sincerely,



Dennis E. Ward
 Commissioner



Ralph M. Mohr
 Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
FROM: Board of Elections
RE: Grant Contracts
DATE: September 22, 2011

SUMMARY

The proposed resolution and accompanying memorandum request authorization by the Erie County Board of Elections (ECBOE) to enter into agreement with the State of New York to accept two new Federal grants in the amount of \$63,720.00.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None. Expenditures are 100% reimbursable by the State of New York through a Federal HHS grant.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION & BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. The Federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) requires the improvement of Polling Place Access in order to expend participation by individuals with a full range of disabilities in the Election process. Eligible improvements are 100% reimbursable by the State of New York with funds provided by a Federal grant.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

1. The ECBOE will experience difficulties in meeting the Federal HAVA requirements.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The Commissioners of the ECBOE will execute the two contracts with the New York State Board of Elections. After expenditures are made, appropriate claim will be submitted to NYS to recover the 100% reimbursement from the Federal Government.

**FROM THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS:
PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the New York State Board of Elections has forwarded two new grants' contracts to the Erie County Board of Elections for approval and execution; and

WHEREAS, the acceptance and execution by the Commissioners of the Erie County Board of Elections would provide for the receipt of grant money in the aggregate amount of \$63,720.00 for the specific purposes of establishing, expanding and improving access to and participation by individuals with a full range of disabilities in the election process; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of the Erie County Board of Elections believe the funds to be obtained under these contracts to be beneficial to the residents of the County and are desirous of entering into said contracts; and

WHEREAS, the approval of this legislative body is a pre-requisite for the acceptance of these agreements by the Erie County Board of Elections

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby approve and accept the following contacts and does hereby authorize the Commissioners of the Erie County Board of Elections to execute the same entitled and designated as:

- 1) HHS 2010 Voting Access for Individuals with Disabilities Polling Place access Improvement Grant - \$43,966.00 (T003098),
- 2) HHS 2011 Voting Access for Individuals with Disabilities Polling Place Access Improvement Gant - \$19,754.00,

And be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Erie County Board of Elections for the purpose of accompanying the transmittal of the aforesaid executed agreements, to the County Comptroller and to the Director of Budget & Management.