

**A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY  
LEGISLATORS KOZUB, MILLER-WILLIAMS**

**Re: Asking the State and Federal Government to restore subsidies for public transportation**

WHEREAS, the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority (NFTA) is responsible for public transportation in Erie County including bus and rail services for residents of Western New York; and

WHEREAS, cuts to NFTA in the amount of \$4.5 million in state operating assistance over the last three years have negatively impacted our region's system of public transportation resulting in service cuts and fare increases; and

WHEREAS, NFTA also faces a \$4 million increase in pensions, workers' compensation and labor costs as they seek to balance this year's budget; and

WHEREAS, in order fill the significant budget gaps created by the decrease in federal and state funding for public transportation and the increase in costs, NFTA is considering additional increases in fares and cutbacks in services for those that use this vital system of transportation; and

WHEREAS, residents that use the public transportation system are often those that can least afford a fare increase, particularly in challenging economic times; and

WHEREAS, we should be encouraging an increase in the use of public transportation as a way to lessen our impact on the environment and decrease costs associated with the upkeep of heavily traveled roadways and bridges in Erie County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature calls upon the Members of Western New York's Congressional Delegation and the Members of the Western New York State Delegation to actively support the restoration in state and federal subsidies for public transportation to the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority, and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this Certified Resolution be sent to Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand and Representatives Brian Higgins, Louise Slaughter and Kathy Hochul, all of the members of the Western New York State Delegation and NFTA Acting Chairman Henry D. Sloma.

FISCAL IMPACT: None for the resolution