

**A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY
LEGISLATORS KOZUB, WHALEN, WHYTE, GRANT,
MAZUR, BOVE, MARINELLI & LOUGHRAN**

Re: Opposing the Closing of Postal Service Operations on William Street in Buffalo and in Lackawanna

WHEREAS, on July 26, 2011 the United States Postal Service (USPS) announced publicly it will conduct studies of approximately 3,700 retail offices to "determine customer needs;" and

WHEREAS, two facilities that are being considered for closing are within Erie County, the United States Post Office located on William Street in Buffalo, NY and the United States Post Office in Lackawanna, NY; and

WHEREAS, the William Street facility employs over 700 people and is Buffalo's main postal facility where a large portion of mail circulated within the Western New York community is processed; and

WHEREAS, moving the William Street operations to another location outside the area is a cost-prohibitive move that would negatively impact the economy of Erie County; and

WHEREAS, the post office in Lackawanna is being considered for closure without proper notification to the public it serves prior to a public hearing on the matter; and

WHEREAS, specific objections include the failure by the postal service to properly notify the public by not delivering questionnaires to individuals and businesses that will be affected by the closure; the proposal and request for comments are not clearly visible to the public at the Lackawanna post office; the notice of and community meeting were not publicized through local media; the community meeting details were incomplete and conflicting deadlines were given for community feedback; and

WHEREAS, given the inadequacy that has been documented in the above areas, it is the responsibility of the Postal Service to address these issues before any public hearing can be held.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature goes on record as Opposing the closing of either the United States Post Office located on William Street in Buffalo, NY or the United States Post Office in Lackawanna, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature encourages the United States Postal Service to extend the November 7, 2011 deadline for public comments regarding

the Lackawanna post office facility to offer everyone impacted the chance to comment fully on this proposed closing; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature forward certified copies of this resolution to the U.S. Postmaster General Patrick R. Donahoe, the Buffalo District Postmaster John Phelan, Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Representative Brian Higgins and Representative Kathy Hochul.

FISCAL IMPACT: None for the resolution.