

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

RE: Vision Tests for Driver's License

WHEREAS, until September 28, 2011, those seeking a drivers' license renewal were required to take a vision test at the Auto Bureau; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles announced on Monday, September 26, 2011 that that policy was ending in two days time; and

WHEREAS, the new policy issued by the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles allows applicants to "self certify" their ability to see; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Clerk's office suggest that between 10 and 20 applicants are denied a new license each week in each of the County's six Auto Bureaus for failing to pass a standard vision test; and

WHEREAS, it is therefore estimated that approximately three to five thousand individuals are denied a drivers' license for failing to pass a vision test each year in Erie County alone; and

WHEREAS, the new policy was issued without consulting local officials and with no advanced warning to local officials; and

WHEREAS, this new policy sacrifices safety in the name of efficiency; and

WHEREAS, taxpayers all across the State of New York should not have to chose between efficiency and safety. They demand and deserve both.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby go on record as being strongly opposed to this new policy and believes that the State Department of Motor Vehicles should not sacrifice safety for efficiency; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature urges the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles to delay the implementation of this policy until local officials can weigh in on this important issue; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County legislature urges the Commission of the Department of Motor Vehicles to create a process whereby applicants can renew on line and still to be required to see properly; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles and to the Governor of New York State.

FISCAL IMPACT: None for resolution