Resolution No. 161

Supervisor CALLERY offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION OPPOSING NEW UNFUNDED MANDATES TO REQUIRE EARLY VOTING IN NEW YORK STATE

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill A.689 and Senate Bill S.1461 have been introduced in the New York State Legislature, to establish an early voting system in primary, general, and special elections in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, said proposed legislation would allow early voting by voters to take place up to 14 days before a general election and up to a week before a primary or special election resulting in substantial new costs for county governments and taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, said legislation, if enacted into law, will require a minimum of five (5) polling places throughout each county with election inspectors at each location for all early voting periods; and

WHEREAS, the Election Commissioners have expressed serious concerns about current proposals for early voting because they constitute an unfunded State mandate and will result in extensive new costs for local taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the State-mandated 2 percent tax cap and insufficient relief from existing state-imposed mandates has placed an unprecedented strain on local governments, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby opposes Assembly Bill A.689 and Senate Bill S.1461 mandating early voting; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors also hereby demands that the State of New York take financial responsibility for all costs associated with any early voting mandates; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board urges that more reasonable approaches be sought to ensure voter turnout and/or that counties be allowed to "opt-in" to early voting procedures at their discretion; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the County Treasurer, Governor Cuomo, Senate Majority Co-Leader Skelos, Senate Majority Co-Leader Klein, Assembly Speaker Silver, Senator Farley, Assemblyman Butler, All Counties, NYSAC, NYS Board of Elections, Fulton County Elections Commissioners, Budget Director/County Auditor and Administrative Officer/Clerk of the Board.

Seconded by Supervisor FAGAN and adopted by the following vote:

TOTAL: Ayes: 19 Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Supervisor Johnson)

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 13th day of MAY 2013, and the same is a true and correct transcript therefrom and the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and official seal
this 13th day of MAY 2013

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of Fulton County