

**A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY  
LEGISLATORS MILLS, GRANT, LORIGO, MORTON, RATH, AND LOUGHRAN**

**Re: Opposition to the Creation of a Special Taxing District to Fund the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library System**

**WHEREAS, the State of New York is already burdened under a significant mountain of bureaucracy and layers of government; and**

**WHEREAS, Erie County has been pointed to as a poster child for governmental waste and bureaucracy by Governor Cuomo, and as was pointed out in the State of the County by County Executive Poloncarz, Erie County already has 1,044 special taxing districts; and**

**WHEREAS, while the Erie County and Buffalo Public Library System provides a tremendous benefit for residents of Erie County and therefore should be properly funded, it should not be at the taxpayers' expense through additional layers of government; and**

**WHEREAS, as part of the Governor's Buffalo Billion Investment Development Plan the addition of more special taxing districts is counterproductive to the revitalization of the Buffalo and Erie County region; and**

**WHEREAS, funding for the library system has been a priority for the County Executive and this Legislature, and in the past has been kept as consistent as possible even going so far as to find alternative supplemental funding to ensure that services are able to be afforded to residents of our county; and**

**WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library has been studying the creation of a library district for several years, and in the process has expended over \$400,000 on the preparation of legislation, public opinion polls and public meetings facilitated by paid consultants; and**

**WHEREAS, the proposed library district would negatively impact the property, affairs and government of Erie County by a special law and thus requires a Home Rule Message pursuant to Article IX section 2 of the New York State Constitution.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature opposes the creation of a special taxing district for the Buffalo and Erie County Library System, or any other additional special taxing districts; and be it further**

RESOLVED, that this honorable body requests Governor Cuomo follow through with his efforts to reduce the number of taxing districts present in New York State and especially in Erie County, this includes his use of the Executive Veto Power on new legislation proposing an increase in the number of special taxing districts; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this honorable body pledges to continue making the issues facing the library a priority so that they can continue to provide the resources and services needed and deserved by the people of Erie County; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the library board of directors, Mary Jean Jakubowski, the WNY Delegations of the New York State Senate and Assembly, Governor Andrew Cuomo, and all other parties deemed necessary and proper.

Fiscal Impact: None