ECLEG SEP19'16 AM 9:44

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY LEGISLATOR MILLER-WILLIAMS

RE: Dialogue Concerning ECC's Relationship with Middle Early College

WHEREAS, since its inception, the Middle Early College High School of the Buffalo Public School system has been partnered with Erie Community College to make hundreds of young adults in Buffalo better prepared to compete in competitive job fields and thrive in a global economy; and

WHEREAS, Erie Community College's commitment to Middle Early College High School has been on the decline in recent years, it has recently ceased its partnership and Middle Early College High School is continuing on with SUNY Buffalo State as its new partner; and

WHEREAS, while much of the curriculum and student experience remains the same, students no longer have the option to graduate with a two-year associate degree as was the previous agreement under the partnership with Erie Community College; and

WHEREAS, students graduating in 2016 will be the final class to have the option for an associate degree, future graduating classes will have approximately 50 college credits to apply toward a four-year degree at Buffalo State or transfer to another SUNY college; and

WHEREAS, Erie Community College is experiencing a period of declining enrollment, the decision to not continue its partnership with Middle Early College High School will have a negative impact on enrollment statistics, as well as possibly adversely affect its relationship with the Buffalo Public School system, a district that many of its students enroll at Erie Community College upon graduation from high school; and

WHEREAS, SUNY Buffalo State's decision to partner with the Buffalo Public School system is a commendable effort to continue the success of the Middle Early College High School program, the incentive of obtaining an associate degree is no longer available and could have adverse action on the morale of the current students and the future enrollment of Middle Early College High School.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature requests Erie Community College President Jack Quinn submit, in writing, a report on the process that led to ending the College's partnership with Middle Early College High School to this Honorable Body no later than October 3, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature requests that Erie Community College President Jack Quinn attend the next session of the Community Enrichment Committee tentatively scheduled for October 13, 2016, to further discuss the plan to reestablish a partnership with the Buffalo Public School system; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to Erie County Executive Mark C. Poloncarz; Erie County Community College President Jack Quinn; Honorable members of the Erie Community College Board of Trustees; Buffalo Public Schools Superintendent Kriner Cash, Honorable members of the Buffalo Publics Schools Board of Education; SUNY Buffalo State College President Katherine Conway-Turner; Honorable members of the SUNY Buffalo State College Council; and any other party deemed necessary and proper.