

**A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY  
LEGISLATOR RATH, LORIGO, AND MORTON**

**Re: Opposition to Expansion of ECIDA Mission**

**WHEREAS**, the Erie County Industrial Development Agency (ECIDA) is primarily tasked with facilitating economic development across the county through a variety of financing and tax inducements and policies aimed at making business more attractive for private sector entrepreneurs; and

**WHEREAS**, concepts and ideas have been proposed for the ECIDA to purchase unspecified property then lease the space to non-profit corporations; and

**WHEREAS**, the purchase and operation of a building as commercial office space for various non-profits would require the ECIDA to step out of its role as a policy body and enter into the business of lessor in direct competition with other developers in the area; and

**WHEREAS**, it is not the role of the county nor the ECIDA to be a developer and compete with the businesses and corporations who come to it for development incentives; and

**WHEREAS**, as admirable as it may be to support not-profit industries and the causes they champion it is something that should be left to other entities more suited to act as a developer and owner of rental property; and

**WHEREAS**, if a private developer were coming to the ECIDA seeking tax incentives to purchase and develop buildings for the express purpose of leasing it out to non-profits that would be an acceptable use of ECIDA inducement funds if the board should choose to pursue it.

**WHEREAS**, recent conversations in an ECIDA Board of Directors meeting included seeking consultation with perspective private developers on not for profit campus construction; and

**WHEREAS**, it was explained to the ECIDA Board of Directors that there are 400 "Not for Profit" campuses across the United States, yet it was unknown the ownership and property management responsibilities for said campuses.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that this honorable body encourages the ECIDA to seek consultation with private developers on not-for-profit campus construction costs and economic viability and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this honorable body requests a report and update on the ownership of "Not for Profit" campuses across the United States and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this honorable body is opposed to any plan by the ECIDA to expand its mission to include the responsibilities of a landlord for properties it does not currently own; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this resolution is in no way a reflection on the value of these not-for-profits to the residents of Erie County, only that the ECIDA should not be operating as the lessor to these corporations; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Chairman of the ECIDA, the Erie County Executive, and any other party deemed necessary and proper.

Fiscal Impact: None