

**A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY
LEGISLATORS MILLS, LORIGO, RATH, DIXON, HARDWICK & MORTON**

Re: Opposition to Unilateral Authority to Retain Budget Payments Mid-Year

WHEREAS, the 2017 New York State Budget Bill proposed by Governor Cuomo calls for a \$152 billion spending plan during the coming fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, part of that spending plan includes funding to be directed to local municipalities to help pay for a portion of the state directed mandates; and

WHEREAS, in the 2017 budget the Governor has included several provisions that could allow him to withhold funding for local programs; and

WHEREAS, many counties and local municipalities, including Erie County, set their budgets for the current fiscal year during the final quarter of the previous year and include estimates of state aid that they use in determining what services they are able to provide, to allow for mid-year changes in anticipated state aid without being able to cut the underlying programs is unacceptable; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of a budget is to set expenses based on revenue and then operate within that amount, the proposal by the governor could make budgeting for the upcoming years more difficult; and

WHEREAS, if the State is worried about how they will pay local governments perhaps it is appropriate that we revisit our priorities and learn to live within our means.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this honorable body hereby opposes the inclusion of language in the 2017 Budget Bill allowing the Governor to essentially make mid-year budget changes while still requiring local governments to cover the costs of mandates; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that this honorable body implores the New York State Legislature to join us in opposing this additional flexibility afforded to the Governor due to the tremendous burden it would impose on local governments; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Hon. Andrew M. Cuomo, the Western New York Delegation to the New York State Senate and Assembly, and any other party deemed necessary and proper.

Fiscal Impact: None for resolution.