

SUSPENSION

A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY LEGISLATOR BRUSO

Re: Studying the Potential Use of Part of the Buffalo Psychiatric Center for Drug Addiction Treatment and Counseling

WHEREAS, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo has decided to retain and keep open the Western New York Children's Psychiatric Center in West Seneca; and

WHEREAS, the retention of the site in West Seneca indicates that \$8 million in improvements that have been made to the Buffalo Psychiatric Center site in expectation of the children's services moving to the Buffalo site are now not needed for the children services; and

WHEREAS, this development means that there is a potential opportunity for the State, the County and its community and health care partners to explore the use of part of the Buffalo Psychiatric Center campus for helping combat the opioid and drug abuse epidemic plaguing our state and community, including particularly for adolescents and young persons; and

WHEREAS, one of the issues affecting successful addiction treatment and recovery is the need for medication-assisted treatment locations that are safe, modern and accessible – features available at the Buffalo site.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature expresses its interest in Erie County working with the State of New York to explore possibilities for utilizing the Buffalo Psychiatric Center location as a medication-assisted treatment site or in-patient treatment facility to help address the opioid epidemic in our community, especially for our children, adolescents and young persons; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Honorable Body urges the county administration to hold discussions with State officials concerning the appropriateness and options for utilizing the Buffalo site for drug treatment and counseling; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, the local delegation of the New York State Legislature, the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, the New York State Office of Mental Health, County Executive Mark Poloncarz, Erie County Commissioner of Health Gale Burstein, and Erie County Commissioner of Mental Health Michael Ranney.

Fiscal Impact: None for this resolution.