## **SUSPENSION**

## Association of Erie County Governments

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## **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

The Association of Erie County Governments has discussed the following proposed resolution at the Supervisors Summit on June 5<sup>th</sup> regarding amendments to the Erie County Tax Act.

Whereas, the proposed changes to the Erie County Tax Act would have fiscal and economic impact on Towns, Villages and residents in Erie County, and

Whereas, the Association of Erie County Governments is asking Erie County to delay voting on potential amendments to the Erie County Tax Act as per Assembly Bill A.10911 and Senate Bill S.8839, and

Whereas, only a few Erie County municipalities are just hearing about these changes and would like to have further discussions with our members and the County before these proposed amendments are voted on, and

Whereas, some of the amendments on the proposed Zombie Homes that will decrease the amount of time a house needs to remain in foreclosure before it can be auctioned, from two years to one year, WE DO NOT support this to include occupied homes to be reduced from two years to one year and ask that it remain at two years without needing a waiver as mentioned in the proposed act, and

Whereas, we are strongly against the decrease in penalties, by 1/3, which would directly affect Municipal Budgets, in some cases like West Seneca the reduction in penalties would reduce their interest and penalties on real property tax by anywhere from \$5,1,000-\$72,000 per year based on what the collected from 2014-2017,

Whereas, originally it was proposed that these changes would not go into effect for a period of one-year to give our residents time to adjust to the new payment schedule. Second Class towns would be due one month earlier which can cause issues with our senior and some middle-class residents on balanced budgets along with taxes in escrow with mortgage companies. It appears that these amendments would be in place this coming tax year.

Whereas, it appears that there will be more County control and oversight over Town Clerks and Assessors which we do not support.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Association of Erie County Governments feels there are many questions that surround the combining of town classes (for example, First Class Towns vs Second Class Towns) and do these amendments merge all towns into one class?

Further Be It Resolved, there are several errors throughout the document, including but not limited to correct procedures, page number discrepancies, effective dates, etc.

Be It Resolved, that the Association of Erie County Governments is asking the Erie County Legislature take pause and not vote on this as suggested on June 7, 2018. The Association would like a longer opportunity to review the document and speak with representatives about our concerns. This entire process seems very rushed and more discussion is needed.

MEMBERS: CITIES/ Buffalo\* Lackawanna\* Tonawanda \*COUNTY of Erie \* TOWNS/ Alden\* Amberst\* Aurora\* Boston\* Brant\* Cheektowaga\* Clarence\* Colden\* Collins\* Concord\* Eden\* Elma\* Evans\* Grand Island\* Hamburg\* Holland\* Lancaster\* Marilla\* Newstead\* North Collins\* Orchard Park\* Sardinia\* Tonawanda\* Wales\* West Seneca \* VILLAGES/ Akron\* Alden\* Angola\* Blasdell\* Depew\* East Aurora\* Farnham\* Gowanda\* Hamburg\* Kenmore\* Lancaster\* North Collins\* Orchard Park\* Sloan\* Springville\* Williamsville\*