

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

Re: Opposition to Granting the Governor Authority to Suspend Budgeted Funds Mid-Year

WHEREAS, the 2018 New York State Budget Bill proposed by Governor Cuomo calls for a \$168.2 billion spending plan during the coming fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, a significant portion of that spending plan includes funding to be directed to local municipalities to help defray some of the state directed mandates; and

WHEREAS, in his recommended budget the Governor has included several provisions that are intended to allow him to withhold funding for local programs in the event there is a reduction of Federal aid funding impacting Medicaid funding of over \$850 million or the State's revenue estimates fall \$500 million or more short of projected amounts; and

WHEREAS, in 2017 this honorable body passed a similar resolution calling the state legislature to oppose the Governor's language authorizing unilateral amendments to the budget after approval; 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this honorable body hereby reaffirms its 2017 resolution and hereby opposes the inclusion of language in the 2018 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.