

**A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY  
LEGISLATORS RATH & MILLS**

**Re: Opposition to Providing Driver's Licenses to Undocumented Immigrants**

**WHEREAS**, New York State is considering provisions that would offer driver's licenses to otherwise undocumented immigrants living in the state; and

**WHEREAS**, over the past ten years, elected officials from Western New York, including Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul, have openly opposed offering driver's licenses to undocumented immigrants; and

**WHEREAS**, this policy essentially directs every County Clerk to knowingly break federal laws when approving undocumented immigrants' applications; and

**WHEREAS**, a driver's license could be used by illegal immigrants for "cover" as Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul once said, by providing them a valuable form of identification, allowing them to entirely avoid federal immigration authorities; and

**WHEREAS**, the privilege to drive in New York is not absolute; and, violation of other sections of state law, completely unrelated to Vehicle and Traffic laws can have an impact on the validity of one's driver's license; and

**WHEREAS**, New York law currently allows for the revocation of a driver's license if the person identified has broken another law, like failing to pay child support; and

**WHEREAS**, a person's willingness to avoid following proper immigration procedure calls into question whether they are willing to avoid following other laws, like reporting their income taxes, purchasing proper insurance, or following New York's vehicle and traffic laws; and

**WHEREAS**, law enforcement would not be permitted to review the records of an undocumented immigrant who is pulled over in a routine traffic stop, but could do background checks on U.S. citizens creating a double standard; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the opinion of this body that the privilege to drive legally in New York State should be predicated on the driver being in New York State, and the United States of America, legally.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, this honorable body urges the New York State Legislature and Governor Cuomo to reject the proposal calling for the provision of licenses to undocumented immigrants; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this honorable body urges the Erie County Clerk follow all federal laws and provide driver's licenses to only legal citizens of the United States of America; and, be it further

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

Fiscal Impact: None