

STATE OF NEW YORK

LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY

BUFFALO, N.Y., MARCH 5, 2020 A.D.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT *at a regular session of the Legislature of Erie County held in the County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 5th day of March, 2020 A.D., a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:*

WHEREAS, *The Erie County Legislature seeks to honor individuals and institutions of Erie County who enhance the quality of life in the community through their efforts; and*

WHEREAS, *the lymphatic system clears away infection and keeps the body's fluids in balance when working properly; and*

WHEREAS, *if the lymphatic system is not working properly, lymph fluid can build up and cause swelling in the tissue as well as infections and blockages; and*

WHEREAS, *chronic pooling of fluids can lead to lymphedema (LE), the abnormal collection of high-protein fluid just below the skin, which can be primary (hereditary) or secondary (caused by cancer-related surgeries, injuries or other trauma); and*

WHEREAS, *lymphedema (LE) does not yet have a cure, but if left untreated, it can lead to further complications, such as disfigurement of the affected area, infections, quality-of-life issues and death; and*

WHEREAS, *the deformities caused by lymphedema are medical conditions and not merely cosmetic issues; and*

WHEREAS, *many of those suffering from lymphedema often are denied coverage for essential treatments – including compression garments, compression wraps, medical devices and manual lymphatic drainage – by their insurance companies; and*

WHEREAS, *the Lymphatic Education & Research Network (LE&RN) estimates that lymphatic diseases (LD) affect up to 10 million Americans (more Americans than who suffer from AIDS, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy and Alzheimer's disease — combined), yet they are routinely undiagnosed, untreated and lacking in research; and*

WHEREAS, *the World Health Organization estimates that more than 250 million people worldwide suffer from secondary lymphedema (LE) alone; and*

WHEREAS, *the mission of the Lymphatic Education & Research Network (LE&RN), formerly known as the Lymphatic Research Foundation, is to fight lymphatic diseases and lymphedema (LE) through education, research and advocacy; to seek to accelerate the prevention, treatment and cure of the diseases; and to bring patients and medical professionals together to address the unmet needs surrounding lymphatic disorders; and*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Erie County Legislature pause in its deliberations to proclaim the week of March 6, as World Lymphedema Day in order to garner much-needed attention to these diseases to help LE&RN succeed in its goal of finding a cure.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,
I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND SIGNATURE.**

APRIL N.M. BASKIN

Chairman of the Erie County Legislature

JOSEPH C. LORIGO

Erie County Legislator, Minority Leader

TIMOTHY MEYERS

*Erie County Legislature
Majority Leader*

EDWARD A. RATH, III

Erie County Legislator

JEANNE M. VINAL

Erie County Legislator

JOHN J. MILLS

Erie County Legislator

HOWARD J. JOHNSON JR.

Erie County Legislator

FRANK J TODARO

Erie County Legislator

KEVIN R. HARDWICK

Erie County Legislator

JOHN J. GILMOUR

Erie County Legislator

LISA M CHIMERA

Erie County Legislator

ROBERT M. GRABER

Clerk of the Erie County Legislature