A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY LEGISLATORS LORIGO, GREENE, TODARO, AND MILLS

Re: Waiver of Health Department Fee on Permit to Operate a Temporary Food Service Establishment

WHEREAS, as New York State is lifting all restrictions, residents in Erie County are looking forward to a summer filled with social gatherings and public events like the Erie County Fair, full attendance sporting events, and festivals; and

WHEREAS, restaurants have faced the brunt of negative impact from the COVID-19 related restrictions and shutdowns; and

WHEREAS, specific events like the Taste of Buffalo, the Erie County Fair, the Buffalo Italian Heritage Festival, the Queen of Heaven Carnival, the Taste of Orchard Park and others are in the process of being planned now. Event vendors, many of whom are local restaurants, could benefit from a waiver of the fees imposed by Erie County's Health Department; and

WHEREAS, Erie County is flush with cash from the American Rescue Plan and the cancelation of potential state funding cuts. Waiving the fees charged to operate a temporary food service establishment provides a benefit to local vendors and a boost to our local economy and cultural scene.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this honorable body hereby waives any-and-all county fees associated with an application for a permit to operate a temporary food services establishment for the remainder of 2021; and, be it further

RESOLVED, this Resolution is not intended to waive any sanitation requirements imposed by the Department of Health nor any right of inspection held by Erie County or its departments nor does it waive the need for filling out an application to operate a temporary food service establishment when required; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Erie County Executive's office, the office of the Commissioner of the Erie County Health Department, the Erie County Comptroller's office, and any other party deemed necessary and proper.

Fiscal Impact: Waiver of the fee will result in a loss of revenue to Erie County.