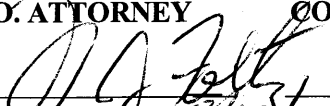


NIAGARA COUNTY LEGISLATURE

FROM: Legislators John D. Ceretto, et al. DATE: 08/24/10 RESOLUTION # IL-041-10

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|--|-----------------|-------------------------|---|
| APPROVED | REVIEWED | COMMITTEE ACTION | LEGISLATIVE ACTION |
| CO. ATTORNEY | CO. MANAGER | _____ | Approved: Ayes _____ Abs. _____ Noes <u>0</u> |
|  | | _____ | Rejected: Ayes _____ Abs. _____ Noes _____ |
| | | _____ | Referred: _____ |

RESOLUTION URGING IMPLEMENTATION OF DRUG TESTING FOR MEDICAID APPLICANTS AND RECIPIENTS, TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE APPLICANTS AND RECIPIENTS, FOOD STAMP APPLICANTS AND RECIPIENTS, AND SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME RECIPIENTS AS A PREREQUISITE FOR ELIGIBILITY

WHEREAS, various programs provided by the State of New York now termed "Temporary Assistance," and formerly termed Welfare, and administered through the New York State Office of Children and Family Services and the Office of Temporary Disability Assistance, now cost the taxpayers of the State of New York approximately \$975 million per month in direct benefit payments in the forms of Temporary Assistance, Food Stamps, and Supplemental Security Income, a figure which excludes administration and personnel costs, and

WHEREAS, the disbursement of said cases as of May, 2010, places 64% of all recipients of such services statewide within the City of New York, despite the City of New York only accounting for 43% of the total population of the State of New York, and

WHEREAS, the total Medicaid spending for the State of New York in Fiscal Year 2008 was \$31 billion per annum, and

WHEREAS, the combined expenditures for such social programs as identified within this resolution, namely Medicaid, Temporary Assistance, Food Stamps, and Supplemental Security Income, total approximately \$43 billion per year, or 32% of total spending by the State of New York, and

WHEREAS, the 2009 Niagara County budget included \$42.1 million in expenditures for Medicaid, which may be quantified as 62% of the County's property tax levy of \$67.8 million, or 79% of the County's entire revenue from collection of sales taxes, and

WHEREAS, such expenditures must then be undertaken by the State of New York in a manner that respects the hard work performed by each and every taxpayer who is forced to contribute, via taxation, to the social welfare of other citizens, and

WHEREAS, the only manner such expenditures may be undertaken that honors the work of the taxpayers is one in which the criminal element and deliberately self-destructive, such as "recreational" drug users, are excluded from receiving such benefits, as it is unreasonable to expect the hardworking taxpayers to subsidize such activity, and

WHEREAS, the Honorable George D. Maziarz, Senator for the 62nd District, did propose legislation, titled "An Act to Amend the Social Services Law, in Relation to People Receiving Public Assistance," and assigned the bill number S.7436, which prescribes a regimen of drug testing for applicants and recipients of such benefits as identified in this resolution, and which is not punitive in its intent, but rather rehabilitative, and

WHEREAS, Member of the Assembly Clifford W. Crouch did submit in the Assembly a companion bill, numbered A.3602, and

WHEREAS, S.7436 has been referred to the New York State Senate's Committee on Social Services on April 9, 2010, and has not been acted upon by that Committee, and A.3602 was referred to the New York State Assembly's Committee on Social Services and held for consideration as of May 25, 2010, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Legislature of the County of Niagara does hereby urge the discharge from committee and allowance of a floor vote on S.7436 by the Senate Majority, and namely by the Honorable Daniel L. Squadron, Chairman of said committee, the Honorable Malcolm A. Smith, President Pro Tempore, the Honorable John L. Sampson, Majority Conference Leader, and the Honorable Pedro Espada Jr., Majority Leader, and be it further

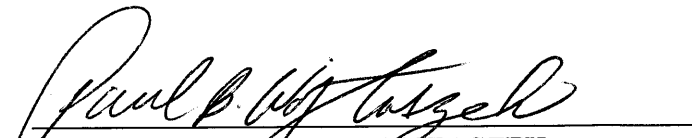
RESOLVED, that the Legislature of the County of Niagara does hereby urge the discharge from committee and allowance of a floor vote on A.3602 by the Assembly Majority, and namely by Member of the Assembly Keith L.T. Wright, Chairman of said committee, the Honorable Sheldon Silver, Speaker, and the Honorable Ronald Canestrari, Majority Leader, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Legislature of the County of Niagara does hereby call upon the entire Western New York delegation to the New York State Legislature to vote in the affirmative for bills S.7436 and A.3602, and for those members of the Western New York delegation in their respective houses' Majorities to take such measures as they may in their privileged positions as members of the Majority to force discharge of said bills from committee and allow for a direct "up or down" vote on the floor, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Legislature of the County of Niagara does hereby urge the Honorable David A. Paterson, Governor, to, absent legislative instruction, devise, through executive order, a regimen of drug tests for social welfare recipients to ensure that the taxpayers are not subsidizing such activities through social welfare programs, and be it further


RESOLVED, that the County of Niagara shall forward copies of this Resolution to Governor Paterson, Senator George D. Maziarz; Senator Antoine D. Thompson; Senator Daniel L. Squadron; Senator Roy J. McDonald; Senator Malcolm A. Smith; Senator John L. Sampson; Senator Pedro Espada Jr.; Member of the Assembly Jane L. Corwin; Member of the Assembly Jim Hayes; Member of the Assembly Stephen Hawley; Member of the Assembly Robin Schimminger; Member of the Assembly Francine DelMonte; Member of the Assembly Keith L.T. Wright; Member of the Assembly Louis Tobacco; Speaker Sheldon Silver; Member of the Assembly Ronald Canestrari, and all others deemed necessary and proper.


LEGISLATOR JOHN D. CERETTO


LEGISLATOR PAUL B. WOJTASZEK

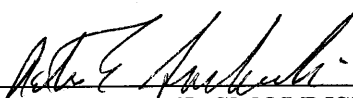

LEGISLATOR GERALD K. FARNHAM


LEGISLATOR RICHARD E. UPDEGROVE



LEGISLATOR DANNY W. SKLARSKI


LEGISLATOR RICHARD A. MARASCO

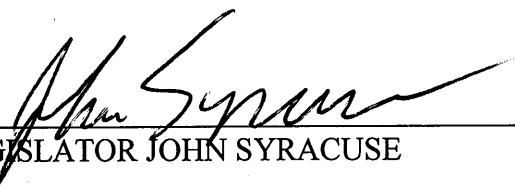

LEGISLATOR WILLIAM L. ROSS

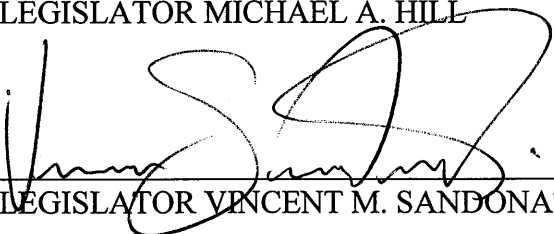

LEGISLATOR PETER E. SMOLINSKI


LEGISLATOR PHILLIP R. RIZZO


LEGISLATOR RENAE KIMBLE

LEGISLATOR MICHAEL A. HILL

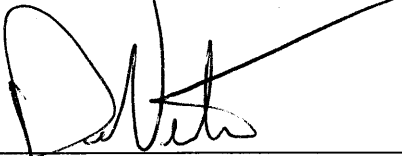

LEGISLATOR JOHN SYRACUSE

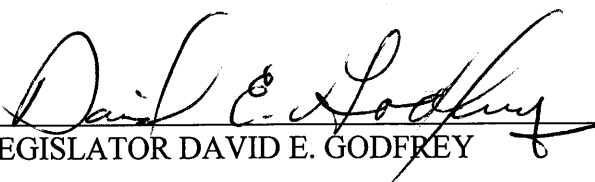

LEGISLATOR VINCENT M. SANDONATO

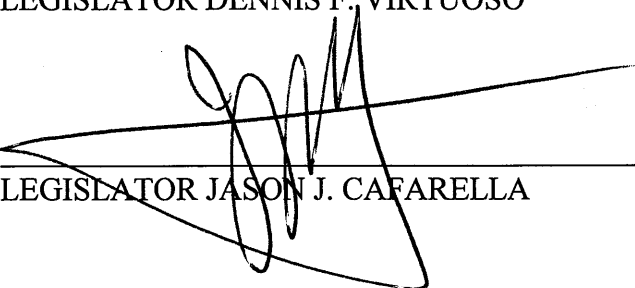

LEGISLATOR CLYDE L. BURMASTER


LEGISLATOR WM. KEITH MCNALL


LEGISLATOR ANTHONY J. NEMI


LEGISLATOR DENNIS F. VIRTUOSO


LEGISLATOR DAVID E. GODFREY


LEGISLATOR JASON J. CAFARELLA