

Inter-County Association of Western New York

Representing the Counties of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Cayuga, Chautauqua, Chemung, Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tompkins, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-2-IC

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING INCREASED STATE SUPPORT FOR CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Offered by: the Inter-County Association of Western New York

WHEREAS, Cornell Cooperative Extension is a formal collaboration between the National Institute of Food and Agriculture at USDA, New York State, County Governments and the Citizens of the State that has served to apply unbiased, research-based knowledge from Cornell, New York's Land Grant University, to the needs of New Yorkers and their communities for over 100 years, and

WHEREAS, local extension educators are key community partners in helping to implement state initiatives including maximizing agriculture and local food systems, strengthening the economy, promoting healthier eating habits and access to good nutrition, fighting poverty particularly in rural areas, protecting water quality and stewardship of New York's natural resources, building opportunity through STEM based youth education and leadership skills in 4-H, promoting renewable energy options while protecting farmland resources, and partnering where appropriate in Taste NY initiatives to promote tourism and local food and farm businesses, and

WHEREAS, support from Federal, State and County sources is essential to the continued success of locally-governed county cooperative extension associations, and

WHEREAS, state appropriations for county cooperative extension associations to match county government appropriations as authorized by Section 224 (8) of the County Law have remained stagnant for twenty years, and

WHEREAS, state funding is needed to ensure that the Cornell Cooperative Extension system can equitably work for all New York residents through increased resources to support rural, suburban, and urban community development needs, now therefore, be it

RESOLVED:

1. That the Inter-County Association of Western New York supports increasing the State appropriation for Cornell Cooperative Extension associations to \$8 million, such funds to be distributed directly to the associations through Cornell University as agent for the state as provided by law, and
2. That the Inter-County Association of Western New York Secretary is directed to send a certified copy of this resolution to state representatives and all others deemed necessary and appropriate.

This is to Certify that I, the undersigned, Secretary of the Inter-County Association of Western New York, have compared the foregoing copy of resolution with the original resolution now on file in this office and which was duly adopted by the Association at a session held on the 21st day of February 2020 and that the same is a true copy of said original and of the whole thereof.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the official seal of the Inter-County Association of Western New York dated February 21, 2020.



Jodi Adams, Secretary
Inter-County Association of Western New York

Sponsored by: Schuyler County, Moved by: Howell (*Schuyler*), Seconded by: Harris (*Allegany*)