

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. 2023-11-IC

URGING NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATORS TO ADVOCATE ON BEHALF OF SUNY COMMUNITY COLLEGES TO INCREASE FUNDING TO COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN THE STATE BUDGET

Sponsored By: Cattaraugus County

Moved By: Rick Helmich (Cattaraugus)

Seconded By: Gary Barnes (Allegany)

WHEREAS, State University of New York's (SUNY's) community colleges serve the largest percentage of low income, historically marginalized populations, and many working adults of all SUNY sectors, and

WHEREAS, with the Governor's Executive Budget calling for a flat amount of base operating aid and with no increase to base aid, community colleges will be unable to appropriately and substantially meet the Governor's and SUNY Chancellor's Equity Agenda, and

WHEREAS, the community college sectors advocated for an increase over last year's funding to accommodate cost of living increases, inflationary related expenses, TAP support for workforce program funding, and operating needs to support student success, and

WHEREAS, the Governor also added language in the Executive Budget Aid to Localities Bill, Page 899, Lines 20-43 of the Same: "... provided further that up to 20 percent of the amount of aid authorized pursuant to this appropriation shall be payable subject to a plan developed by the state university of New York and approved by the director of the budget with actions necessary for community colleges to undertake in order to operate without reliance on the base aid funding floor in future years", and

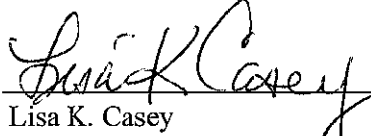
WHEREAS, if the Governor's proposed budget and proposal to hold back needed operating funds remains unchanged, multiple community colleges would forego thousands in base State Aid, as well as potentially lose an additional significant funds if 20% of the aid was held for a period of time or indefinitely, and

WHEREAS, any delay in state aid payment creates an undue burden on the community colleges to manage operating expenses, including payroll, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Inter-County Association of Western New York hereby urges New York State Legislators to advocate on behalf of the community college sector of SUNY by adding an additional \$17 million in operating base aid for the community colleges as requested and remove any language to hold back 20 percent of operating base aid, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Secretary of Inter-County Association of Western New York is hereby directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Senate Minority Leader Rob Ortt, Assembly Majority Leader Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes, Assembly Minority Leader William Barclay, Senator George Borrello, Assemblyman Joseph Giglio, New York State Association of Counties, and the Inter-County Association of Western New York.

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 April 2023 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 April 21, 2023.



Lisa K. Casey
Inter-County Association of Western New York



Sponsored by: Cattaraugus County, Moved by: Rick Helmich (Cattaraugus), Seconded by: Gary Barnes (Allegany)