

Chenango County Lever Resolution

RESOLUTION # 99-09

RESOLUTION TO JOIN THE NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS AND OTHER COUNTIES IN SEEKING COUNTY LEADERSHIP AND SUPPORT FOR FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY BY STAYING WITH LEVER VOTING MACHINES

Mr. Decker offered the following, and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, for many decades Chenango County has successfully used mechanical lever-style voting machines, with very few problems, and is desirous of continuing to do so, and

WHEREAS, New York State enacted the Election Reform and Modernization Act of 2005 (ERMA) and other laws that require all lever machines to be replaced and prohibit the use of any lever machines in any future elections in New York State, and

WHEREAS, Chenango County believes that the continued use of lever-style voting machines is in the best interest of the public and should be permitted to be used in future elections, and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of this Board that if the State of New York replaces lever voting machines with optical scanner systems, the cost to the taxpayers of Chenango County will be insurmountable not covered by HAVA funds and the payment thereof will severely strain and possibly break the budgets of all Counties in this time of economic crisis, and

WHEREAS, the expense of the computerized voting systems is exorbitant and will no doubt increase annually and there will be uncertain as to costs and expenses, none of which exists with the current lever machine and BMDs machines, and

WHEREAS, New York State now has, accurate and reliable electoral system using the lever-style voting machines, and

WHEREAS, the New York State legislation relating to voting machines far exceeds the federal requirements of Help America Vote Act (HAVA), and

WHEREAS, the State's statutorily required elimination of lever-style voting machines is unnecessary, inappropriate and costly to Chenango County taxpayers, and in these difficult economic times, the cost to implement elections with these new machines is an unfunded mandate,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, That the Chenango County Board of Supervisors hereby joins with the New York State Association of Towns and other Counties seeking and supporting the continuation of our lever voting machines together with Ballot Marking Devices (BMD) and rejecting the use of a computerized voting system as the computerized voting system will be a huge expense and undertaking in Chenango County during this time of economic uncertainty, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chenango County Board of Supervisors hereby requests the New York State Legislature and the New York State Board of Elections to enact laws, rules and regulations as specifically authorized to continue the use of lever-style voting machines, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to Governor David A. Paterson, New York Senate Majority Leader Malcolm A. Smith, Senate Minority Leader Dean G. Skelos, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Minority Leader Brian Kolb, Senator, Senator James L. Seward, Senator Thomas W. Libous, Assemblyman Clifford W. Crouch,

Assemblyman Gary D. Finch, Assemblyman Peter D. Lopez, Congressman Michael Arcuri, Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand, the Executive Directors of the New York State Board of Elections, Todd D. Valentine and Stanley L. Zalen, New York State Board of Election Commissioners James A. Walsh, Douglas A. Kellner Evelyn J. Aquila, and Gregory P. Peterson, the New York Association of Towns, and the Election Transparency Coalition.

Seconded by Mr. Brown and duly adopted.

State of New York)

County of Chenango)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of resolution duly adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Chenango County on the 8th day of June 2009 and of the whole thereof.

Dated, Norwich, N.Y.

2009

Clerk of the Board