

Warren County Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION NO. 115 OF 2023

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY SUPERVISORS WILD AND LEGGETT

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

WHEREAS, SUNY's community colleges serve the largest percentage of low income, historically marginalized populations, and many working adults of all SUNY sectors,

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

WHEREAS, the community college sector and SUNY Adirondack advocated for a 4% increase over last year's funding to accommodate cost of living increases, inflationary related expenses, and operating needs to support student success,

WHEREAS, the Governor has 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".

WHEREAS, if the Governor's proposed budget and proposal to hold back needed operating funds remains unchanged, SUNY Adirondack would lose about Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) in base State Aid, as well as potentially lose an additional One Million Four Hundred and Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$1,460,000) if 20% of the aid was held for a period of time or indefinitely,

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

RESOLVED, that the Warren County Board of Supervisors 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% of operating base aid.

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to forward advocacy letters to State Legislators concerning the same.