

Warren County Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION NO. 160 OF 2024

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY SUPERVISORS ETU, STROUGH, BEAN, MADAY, TURNER, CROCITTO AND WILD

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING SENATE BILL NO. S4545 AND ASSEMBLY BILL NO. A3069
DISBANDING THE WARREN-WASHINGTON COUNTIES IDA (INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY) AND CONSOLIDATE IT INTO A CAPITAL REGION
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY INTENDED TO COVER AND EIGHT-COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGION**

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. S4545 and Assembly Bill No. A3069 seek to amend Section 856 of the General Municipal Law to consolidate existing industrial development agencies (hereafter, “IDAs”) into regional industrial development agencies and which further seek to repeal Sections 861 and 882 of the General Municipal Law revoking county oversight of the IDA budget process and terminating rights of counties, and

WHEREAS, if enacted, the law would consolidate the Warren-Washington Industrial Development Agency (hereafter, the “WWIDA”) into a statutorily created “Capital Region” Industrial Development Agency which would also include Albany, Columbia, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady and Washington counties, and

WHEREAS, the justification set forth in the sponsoring memoranda provide no logistical justification or factual support for this proposed legislation, but instead reference existing IDAs’ “race-to-the-bottom mentality,” and concerns regarding IDA applications “shopping around” amongst the IDAs with overlapping jurisdictions to obtain the “best deal,” and

WHEREAS, the proposed bills seek to repeal Section 861 of the General Municipal Law, eliminating Warren County Board of Supervisors oversight and Warren County public inspection of the proposed IDA budget, and

WHEREAS, if enacted, local and Warren County oversight of the IDA would be replaced with a fifteen (15) member board to be proportionally appointed based on population, to which Warren and Washington counties are among the least populated in the proposed Capital Region IDA, and

WHEREAS, Warren and Washington counties would be under-represented on the proposed Capital Region IDA board which would prevent Warren County leadership from deciding issues and economic development priorities unique to the Warren and Washington County region, and

WHEREAS, the Warren County Board of Supervisors is unaware of any statistical or factual evidence to support the sponsors’ concerns set forth in the sponsoring memoranda, including the “race-to-the-bottom mentality,” or instance of “shopping around” within the jurisdictional boundaries of the WWIDA, and

WHEREAS, the Warren County Board of Supervisors opposes the concept of regional IDAs and desires to keep important economic development priorities to its residents to local decision making, now,

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therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Warren County Board of Supervisors hereby opposes Senate Bill No. S4545 and Assembly Bill No. A3069, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, Senator Dan Stec, Assemblyman Matthew Simpson and the New York State Association of Counties.