

Warren County Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION NO. 235 OF 2020

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY SUPERVISORS DRISCOLL, HOGAN, BRUNO, FRASIER, MAGOWAN, MCDEVITT AND SHEPLER

RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO RELEASE ENHANCED FEDERAL MEDICAID MATCHING FUNDS TO WARREN COUNTY

RESOLUTION WITHDRAWN

WHEREAS, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress has enacted extraordinary measures to help states and localities with increased costs and lost revenue, and

WHEREAS, a key action enacted by the federal government was a 6.2 percent increase in the federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP), and

WHEREAS, Congress has used this mechanism to provide fiscal relief to states and their local government Medicaid funding partners to reduce the financial burden they often experience in an economic downturn, and

WHEREAS, the State of New York has already drawn down about \$2.5 Billion Dollars from January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020, and

WHEREAS, under federal law a portion of these funds are required to be passed through to counties, and

WHEREAS, Warren County estimates the local share is about 20 percent, and

WHEREAS, counties are struggling with higher costs associated with responding to COVID-19 and experiencing extensive revenue declines due to the shutdown of large swaths of the economy, and

WHEREAS, in addition to mounting losses in local revenues, counties are also expecting significant cuts in state aid, and

WHEREAS, many counties have enacted plans to reduce non-mandated expenses to the degree they can without sacrificing public health and safety, and

WHEREAS, these expense reductions also require a review of the workforce, including layoffs, and

WHEREAS, Warren County projects that each quarter of enhanced FMAP funding is worth hundreds of millions of dollars for counties, and

WHEREAS, the State has been holding three years of similar enhanced FMAP payments owed to counties under the Affordable Care Act that are worth hundreds of millions of dollars, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the County of Warren is requesting that the State of New York immediately release the first quarter of enhanced Medicaid federal matching funds for the pandemic response to Warren County to provide some partial fiscal relief to the current conditions, and be it further

RESOLVED, Warren County requests that the State of New York provide a timeline to all counties on the release of the enhanced federal Medicaid matching funds related to the Affordable Care Act that have been withheld for years and the likely mechanism on how these funds will be delivered to counties, and be it further

RESOLVED, that Warren County understands the State of New York is experiencing severe fiscal stress, as well, and want to work cooperatively with the State to develop a plan on the release of the withheld federal enhanced Medicaid funds due to counties under the Affordable Care Act and future pandemic FMAP increased funding, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution will be sent to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Senator Elizabeth O’C. Little, Assemblyman Daniel G. Stec, Congresswoman Elise Stefanik, the New York State Association of Counties and all others deemed necessary and appropriate.