

Warren County Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION NO. 613 OF 2019

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY SUPERVISORS SOKOL, SIMPSON, MERLINO, DICKINSON, STROUGH, BEATY, FRASIER, McDEVITT, GERAGHTY, BRAYMER AND HYDE

A RESOLUTION TO INCREASE STATE SUPPORT FOR CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK

WHEREAS, Cornell Cooperative Extension is a formal collaboration between the National Institute of Food and Agriculture at USDA, New York State, County Governments and the citizens of the State that has served to apply unbiased, research-based knowledge from Cornell, New York's Land Grant University, to the needs of New Yorkers and their communities for over 100 years, and

WHEREAS, local extension educators are key community partners in helping to implement state initiatives including maximizing agriculture and local food systems, strengthening the economy, promoting healthier eating habits and access to good nutrition, fighting poverty particularly in rural areas, protecting water quality and stewardship of New York's natural resources, building opportunity through STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) based youth education and leadership skills in 4-H, promoting renewable energy options while protecting farmland resources, and partnering where appropriate in Taste NY initiatives to promote tourism and local food and farm businesses, and

WHEREAS, support from Federal, State and County sources is essential to the continued success of locally-governed county cooperative extension associations; and

WHEREAS, state appropriations for county cooperative extension associations to match county government appropriations as authorized by Section 224 (8) of the County Law have remained stagnant for seventeen years; and

WHEREAS, state funding is needed to ensure that the Cornell Cooperative Extension system can equitably work for all New York residents through increased resources to support rural, suburban, and urban community development needs, now, therefore be it

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RESOLVED that the Warren County Board of Supervisors supports increasing the State appropriation for Cornell Cooperative Extension associations to \$8 million, such funds to be distributed directly to the associations through Cornell University as agent for the state as provided by law, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors be, and hereby is, directed to forward copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew Cuomo, New York State Senator Elizabeth O'C Little, Assemblyman Daniel G. Stec, the New York State Association of Counties and the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks.