

**A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY
LEGISLATORS LORIGO, MILLS, TODARO, GREENE**

**RE: SUPPORTING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO NEW YORK STATE'S HUMANE
ALTERNATIVES TO LONG-TERM SOLITARY CONFINEMENT (HALT) ACT**

WHEREAS, the safety and security of correctional staff and incarcerated individuals remains a major concern for Erie County; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Legislature previously adopted Intro. 5-4 (2025) Opposing the HALT Act and Supporting Correctional Officer Safety; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision HALT Committee, comprised of state agencies, union representatives, and stakeholders, has proposed ten amendments to the HALT Act following review and discussion; and

WHEREAS, correctional officers have faced increasing safety challenges under current law, including incidents of sexual harassment, assaults involving bodily fluids, gang-related extortion, and other serious misconduct with limited disciplinary recourse; and

WHEREAS, while the Erie County Legislature continues to support full repeal of the HALT Act, the proposed amendments represent a necessary step toward restoring critical safety tools for correctional officers and facility operations; and

WHEREAS, these amendments would partially address ongoing safety concerns by clarifying eligibility for segregated confinement in cases of serious misconduct, allowing temporary protective custody when safety demands it, and providing appropriate consequences for repeat offenders who disrupt operations; and

WHEREAS, the proposed changes also expand access to incentive programs for incarcerated individuals who demonstrate good behavior; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that the Erie County Legislature supports the HALT Committee's proposed amendments to New York State's Humane Alternatives to Long-Term Solitary Confinement Act; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Erie County Legislature urges the New York State Legislature and Governor Kathy Hochul to promptly consider and enact these reforms to enhance safety and security in correctional facilities; and be it further

RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, and Erie County's state legislative delegation.