A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY LEGISLATOR DUPRE

Re: Calling on Kaleida Health to Keep Open the Family Planning Clinic

WHEREAS, the Kaleida Health Family Planning Clinic, operating since 1972 (originally as Deaconess Family Planning Clinic on Riley Street), is slotted to close this November.; and

WHEREAS, generations of patients have trusted this clinic for comprehensive GYN care, STI/HIV testing and treatment, contraception, colposcopy, and school-based education on reproductive health and consent.; and

WHEREAS, the clinic's staff bring over 100 years of combined healthcare experience and have built strong, culturally competent relationships with Buffalo's African American, Bengali, and African immigrant communities; and

WHEREAS, no other local option provides the same level of accessibility—walk-in availability, bus-line access, evening hours, and services for uninsured patients, men, and young people seeking confidential care; and

WHEREAS, many other clinics continue to refer patients here because of these unique strengths; and

WHERE AS, at a time when STIs, including syphilis, are rising and maternal mortality rates remain unacceptably high, closing this clinic would be a step backward in public health; and

WHEREAS, it is also not financially logical to close the Family Planning Clinic now because staff salaries are supported by Title X funding through 2026, uninsured patients are supported by the Family Planning Benefit Program, and medication is subsidized by 340B drug pricing.

NOW, THEREFOR IT BE,

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature calls on Kaleida Health to reevaluate the closing of the Family Planning Clinic; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Legislature calls on the New York State Department of Health to reject the application for closure; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to Governor Kathy Hochul, NYS Senator Sean Ryan, NYS Senator April N.M. Baskin, NYS Assembly Member Crystal Peoples-Stokes, NYS Assembly Member Jon Rivera, NYS Department of Health, and the President and CEO of Kaleida Health.