

**A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY
LEGISLATOR ST. JEAN TARD**

Re: Calling for Transparency and Accountability Regarding ECMC Workforce Reductions

WHEREAS, the Erie County Medical Center Corporation (ECMC), this region's safety-net hospital and Level I Adult Trauma Center, has announced approximately 150 job cuts and a one-week unpaid furlough for non-union management employees, citing financial constraints; and

WHEREAS, ECMC has described these reductions as "targeted" and "mostly nonclinical," while the New York State Nurses Association reports that affected positions include frontline nurses and nurse educators, whose roles are central to patient care and workforce training; and

WHEREAS, ECMC has identified reimbursement shortfalls, insurance denials and delays, and inflationary pressures as contributing factors; and

WHEREAS, public hospitals and trauma centers across the country face escalating financial stress driven by Medicare underpayment and additional Medicaid cuts by the Trump Administration; and

WHEREAS, addressing these systemic challenges must not come at the expense of bedside caregivers or the patients they serve, as workforce reductions undermine hospital operations and place patient safety at risk; and

WHEREAS, the removal of staff from any component of ECMC weakens the system as a whole, with patients experiencing the consequences first through delayed care, diminished training capacity, and reduced quality outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Legislature has a duty to exercise oversight of public assets such as ECMC to ensure decisions align with its mission to provide safe, accessible, and high-quality healthcare to the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature expresses serious concern regarding ECMC's current workforce reduction plan and stands with the workers and patients who rely on a fully staffed and functioning safety-net hospital; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature requests a comprehensive public presentation and written report detailing the justification for the eliminated positions, including projected cost savings, departments impacted, anticipated clinical and operational consequences, and specific safeguards in place to prevent harm to patient outcomes, particularly where frontline nurses and nurse educators are affected; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature further requests confirmation that all alternatives to workforce reductions were fully examined and exhausted, including reductions in administrative overhead, consulting expenses, duplicative management structures, and executive compensation growth; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature calls upon state and federal partners to recognize ECMC's situation as indicative of broader instability among safety-net hospitals and to pursue immediate corrective action; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President and Chief Executive Officer of ECMC, the ECMC Board of Directors, the Governor of the State of New York, the New York State Department of Health, the Western New York Congressional Delegation, and the New York State Nurses Association.