

Democratic Rural Conference of New York State

RESOLUTION ON NEW YORK STATE VOTING REFORMS

WHEREAS, voter turnout in the State of New York has been historically low, with New York ranking 41 out of 50 states in voter participation; and

WHEREAS, voter participation is a right of the citizenry of the State of New York and that the voter should not have to be unduly pressured into choosing to manage work, family and day to day life at the expense of being able to participate in the elections process; and

WHEREAS, voter participation is vital to the success of maintaining a vibrant democracy.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Democratic Rural Conference of New York State strongly encourages the New York State Legislature to introduce and pass, and for Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to sign into law, legislation allowing for early voting to begin 10 days before election day at a polling site of convenience and whereas more sites shall be added based on a county's population (one site per 100,000 people in a given county); and

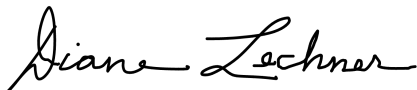
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State of New York should also pass legislation that allows for No Excuse absentee voting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that legislation should also seek to set uniform hours of participation from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. for Election Day voting throughout New York State during Primary and General Elections, to allow for the scheduling of split shifts for poll inspectors and to reimburse counties for the increased election costs thereof; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Democratic Rural Conference of New York would support legislation that would allow for same day registration for NON-REGISTERED voters in general elections; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Democratic Rural Conference of New York State would like to see voting reforms figure prominently in our party's platform as our party being the one that promotes voter participation and has not forgotten those who are being disenfranchised; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Democratic Rural Conference of New York State forward copies of this Resolution to the offices of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Speaker of the Assembly Carl E. Heastie, Senate Democratic Conference Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and New York State Democratic Committee Chairman Byron Brown.

BY: 

Diane Lechner, Secretary

October 1, 2018

On a Motion by Mr. Hurley and a second by Mr. Prosser, the membership of the Democratic Rural Conference of New York State unanimously passed this Resolution at its Fall Meeting in Albany, NY.

Democratic Rural Conference of New York State