

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Steven Bellone
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

December 6, 2012

RECEIVED
2012 DEC -6 P 4:48
COUNTY LEGISLATURE
SUFFOLK COUNTY, N.Y.
HAUPPAUGE

Presiding Officer William J. Lindsay and
Members of the Suffolk County Legislature
William H. Rogers Legislative Building
725 Veterans Memorial Highway
Smithtown, New York 11787

RESOLUTION NO. 989-2012, REQUIRING TRACKING OF LONG-TERM CARE SERVICE INQUIRIES

Dear Presiding Officer Lindsay and Members of the Legislature:

I am returning **RESOLUTION NO. 989-2012, REQUIRING TRACKING OF LONG-TERM CARE SERVICE INQUIRIES**; vetoed as it is both premature and duplicative of other areas of Suffolk County government.

In September, I worked with the Suffolk County Legislature to establish a Patient Advocacy Unit within the Department of Social Services. It was our intention that this unit would work to track and assist those individuals finding it difficult to navigate through the process of finding long-term care for their loved ones.

However, at this time the John J. Foley Skilled Nursing Facility remains open, making both the Patient Advocacy Unit, adopted in September, and this legislation redundant and unnecessary. The Patient Advocacy Unit will commence operation within 30 days of closure of sale of the John J. Foley Skilled Nursing Facility to assure a collaborative effort between the Health Department and the Department of Social Services.

The 2013 budget includes funding for the Patient Advocacy Unit and upon closure of sale of the John J. Foley Skilled Nursing Facility, I will authorize the SCIN forms needed to establish what was agreed upon; but at this time that action is premature. This resolution would duplicate the work of that Patient Advocacy Unit before it has even been established. While such duplicity is never ideal, it is truly unjustified in light of the many difficult decisions we have been collectively forced to make this year.

During the debate of Resolution 859-2012 there was a question as to whether or not the patient advocacy unit would report to the Legislature. I would refer you all to the 5th Resolved clause which state:

“the unit will report quarterly to the Legislature, Commissioner of Social Services and Commissioner of Health Services on populations in need regarding actions related to assisting individuals locate appropriate levels of care, any issues which may have arisen and the number of individuals served”

I am returning this legislation vetoed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Bellone', with a stylized 'S' and 'B'.

Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

SB:meh

cc: All Suffolk County Legislators
Tim Laube, Clerk of the Legislature
Dennis Cohen, Esq., Acting Chief Deputy County Executive
Paul Margiotta, Esq., Acting County Attorney
Frederick Pollert, Deputy County Executive for Finance and Management
Jon Schneider, Deputy County Executive for Intergovernmental Affairs
Thomas Melito, Deputy County Executive
Vanessa Baird-Streeter, Director of Communications
Connie Corso, Budget Director

Intro. Res.

1996

Res. No.

989

November 20, 2012

Motion:

Romaine, Schneiderman, Browning, Muratore, Anker
Calarco, Montano, Cilmi, Lindsay, Hahn, Barraga,
Kennedy, Nowick, Horsley, Gregory, Stern, D'Amaro, Spencer

Co-Sponsors:

Romaine, Schneiderman, Browning, Muratore, Anker
Calarco, Montano, Cilmi, Lindsay, Hahn, Barraga,
Kennedy, Nowick, Horsley, Gregory, Stern, D'Amaro, Spencer

Second:

Romaine, Schneiderman, Browning, Muratore, Anker
Calarco, Montano, Cilmi, Lindsay, Hahn, Barraga,
Kennedy, Nowick, Horsley, Gregory, Stern, D'Amaro, Spencer

LD	Legislator	Yes	No	Abs	NP	R
1	Edward P. ROMAINE	/				
2	Jay H. SCHNEIDERMAN	/				
3	Kate M. BROWNING	/				
4	Thomas MURATORE	/				
5	Kara HAHN	/				
6	Sarah S. ANKER	/				
7	Rob CALARCO	/				
9	Ricardo MONTANO	/				
10	Thomas CILMI	/				
11	Thomas F. BARRAGA	/				
12	John M. KENNEDY, JR.	/				
13	Lynne C. NOWICK	/				
15	DuWayne GREGORY				/	
16	Steven H. STERN	/				
17	Lou D'AMARO		/			
18	William SPENCER	/				
14	Wayne R. HORSLEY, D.P.O.	/				
8	William J. LINDSAY, P.O.		/			
Totals		52	1			

MOTION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Approve
_____	Table: _____
_____	Send To Committee
_____	Table Subject To Call
_____	Lay On The Table
_____	Discharge
_____	Take Out of Order
_____	Reconsider
_____	Waive Rule _____
_____	Override Veto
_____	Close
_____	Recess
APPROVED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FAILED _____
No Motion _____	No Second _____

RESOLUTION DECLARED	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ADOPTED
_____	NOT ADOPTED

Roll Call Voice Vote _____

Tim Laube

Tim Laube, Clerk of the Legislature

Introduced by Legislators Browning, Calarco, Cilmi and Hahn

**RESOLUTION NO. 989 -2012, REQUIRING TRACKING OF
LONG-TERM CARE SERVICE INQUIRIES**

WHEREAS, New York State is experiencing significant growth in its population of residents 65 years of age and older; and

WHEREAS, by 2030, it is estimated that 18.3% of the State's population will be over the age of 65; and

WHEREAS, seniors are increasingly seeking long-term care services that can be provided in their homes or community by family, friends or healthcare professionals; and

WHEREAS, in May 2008, the County's Healthcare Task Force recommended creating a database to aid residents seeking information on long-term care services in Suffolk County; and

WHEREAS, a study conducted by the American Association of Retired Persons found that almost 50% of all persons that reach the age of 65 will spend time at some point in a skilled nursing facility; and

WHEREAS, the County is in the process of selling the John J. Foley Skilled Nursing Facility, which has traditionally provided long-term skilled nursing care to individuals who are difficult to place in private facilities, to a private owner; and

WHEREAS, to ensure that families in need of long-term care services obtain the care that is necessary, the Department of Health Services, in conjunction with the Department of Social Services, the Office for the Aging and the Office for Persons with Disabilities, should track requests they receive for information on long-term care services, as well as the outcomes of such inquiries; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that the Department of Health Services, Department of Social Services, the Office for the Aging and the Office for Persons with Disabilities are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to post their departmental contact information for residents specifically seeking assistance with obtaining long-term care services at all County health centers and public facilities run by the Department of Social Services; and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, that the Department of Health Services, the Department of Social Services, the Office for the Aging and the Office for Persons with Disabilities are also directed to track all inquiries made to their offices for information on long-term care services from the initial contact with the County through resolution; and be it further

3rd RESOLVED, that the Department of Health Services, Department of Social Services, the Office for the Aging and the Office for Persons with Disabilities are further authorized, empowered and directed to, in consultation with the Department of Information Technology, establish a shared database to aid in the tracking of such inquiries; and be it further

4th RESOLVED, that a report shall be generated on a quarterly basis from the database and provided to the County Executive, each member of the County Legislature, and

the Clerk of the Legislature detailing the number of requests received by the County during the previous quarter, the types of requests, and the manner in which each request was addressed by the County; and be it further

5th **RESOLVED**, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(20), (21) and (27) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as a promulgation of regulations, rules, policies, procedures, and legislative decisions in connection with continuing agency administration, management and information collection, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED: November 20, 2012

APPROVED BY:

VETOED

County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: 12/6/12