

**RESOLUTION NO. 716 -2014, ESTABLISHING A “PROTECT OUR DRINKING WATER” PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN CONTEST TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF AQUIFER PROTECTION**

**WHEREAS**, Suffolk County sits atop a sole source aquifer which provides the drinking water to its 1.5 million residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the County works hard through land preservation and clean water programs in the Department of Health Services to protect the aquifer from pollution; and

**WHEREAS**, all County residents should be concerned about protecting our drinking water and informed of actions they can take to ensure the aquifer continues to provide clean, safe drinking water for generations to come; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Suffolk should take all possible steps to increase public awareness of the aquifer and the protection of our drinking water; now, therefore be it

**1st RESOLVED**, that the Office of the Presiding Officer of the County Legislature shall conduct an annual “Protect Our Drinking Water” campaign in high schools throughout the County of Suffolk, inviting students to participate in a contest where they create a video public service announcement on the importance of protecting the County’s aquifer and steps residents can take to protect our drinking water; and be it further

**2nd RESOLVED**, that each Legislator may send letters and a copy of the aquifer protection pamphlet, published pursuant to the 5<sup>th</sup> RESOLVED clause of this Resolution, to the Superintendents of public school districts, located within their pertinent legislative district, advising the school as to the contest; and be it further

**3rd RESOLVED**, that each participating Legislator shall judge entries made by high schools and then recommend to the Presiding Officer of the County Legislature one (1) public service announcement to represent their legislative district; and be it further

**4th RESOLVED**, that the deadline for submitting eligible public service announcements to the Presiding Officer shall be May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year beginning with the year 2015; the Legislative Office of Budget Review shall then select the winning public service announcement, which shall be announced by the Presiding Officer at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the Legislature in June each year; and be it further

**5th RESOLVED**, that any student requesting to participate in said contest shall be furnished with a pamphlet from the Suffolk County Department of Health Services regarding the aquifer and County drinking water, as well as information from any other relevant organization dedicated to drinking water protection in Suffolk County; and be it further

**6th RESOLVED**, that said pamphlet shall be disseminated by the County Department of Health Services no later than January 31<sup>st</sup> each year; and be it further

**7th**            **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: September 9, 2014

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone  
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: September 24, 2014