

RESOLUTION NO. 1046 -2014, DIRECTING THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO POST REFERENDUM PROPOSITIONS ONLINE

WHEREAS, our representative, democratic system of government works best when citizens have access to all relevant information and are properly informed about candidates and issues; and

WHEREAS, New York State and its local political subdivisions periodically submit issues to voters in the form of propositions or questions that appear on the election ballot; and

WHEREAS, some of the issues presented to the voters by referendum are nuanced and complex; and

WHEREAS, these voter referendums are generally underpublicized and many voters are not aware of these ballot propositions until they enter their polling place; and

WHEREAS, Suffolk County voters should have easy and early access to the propositions that appear on the ballot each year, as well as legal abstracts that explain the propositions in greater detail; and

WHEREAS, posting referendum questions and abstracts online would provide the electorate with a greater opportunity to review propositions and make informed decisions prior to entering the voting booth; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that the Board of Elections is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to post all state, County and town propositions appearing on the general election ballot on their website, beginning in 2015 and continuing each year thereafter; and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, that ballot propositions shall be posted with their related abstracts no later than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the election; and be it further

3rd 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 18, 2014

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: December 4, 2014