RESOLUTION TO FUND EARLY VOTING AND ELECTRONIC POLLBOOKS

WHEREAS, the New York State Legislature has passed, and the Governor has signed, a law to create an “Early Voting” system in New York,

WHEREAS, in order to ensure that no person votes twice, once during the early voting period and a second time on Election Day, electronic pollbooks are needed to enable poll workers to easily verify a voter’s proper polling place and determine whether he has already voted,

WHEREAS, legislation to authorize the creation of electronic pollbooks is before the Legislature,

WHEREAS, the State and County boards of election will need dedicated funding to cover the purchase of systems and start-up and implementation costs for 2019, since county budgets were set before the Early Voting law passed.

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED:

1. We support, and we want our elected state representatives to enact, a law authorizing the creation of electronic pollbooks to be used in the 2019 elections,

2. The New York State Budget must provide dedicated funding, and not ask counties to rely on other cost savings, to ensure seamless implementation of early elections and electronic pollbooks, and

3. The New York State Budget should include direct funding for early elections and electronic pollbooks in the amount of $25 million, which is the amount estimated by good governance groups to be adequate to cover the anticipated costs.