

## RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PUBLIC FINANCING OF ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, New York State's campaign finance system favors the wealthy and powerful over working New Yorkers,

WHEREAS, in the 2018 election, just 100 big donors gave more to state candidates than ALL 137,000 small donors combined,

WHEREAS, it is far past time to enable people of low and moderate means and all under-represented New Yorkers to participate meaningfully in the New York political process,

WHEREAS, Governor Cuomo, Speaker Carl Heastie, and Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins have all authored Fair Elections proposals in the past, and this is the opportunity to get it done, and

WHEREAS, now more than ever we have an opportunity to adopt alternatives to our current campaign finance system that could increase participation in the democratic process and would curb corruption, thereby restoring the public's trust in state government,

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED:

1. We support, and we want our elected state representatives to support and vote for, the enactment of a fair elections system similar to the "Fair Elections Act" legislation introduced in 2016;
2. This would include creating a voluntary system of public funding for all Assembly, Senate, statewide and District Attorney elections and lowering the amounts of the maximum contribution limits for all such races;
3. The Assembly and the Senate should enact, and the Governor should sign, a law creating a small donor matching system for all candidates in state elections, including District Attorneys, like the successful program in New York City. It should include a \$6-to-\$1 public matching on small dollar donations, enforcement, and robust candidate support services to help anyone running for office comply with the law;
4. The Assembly and the Senate should enact, and the Governor should sign, a law to reduce New York's unusually high contribution limits to dramatically lower how much money wealthy donors can give to candidates and committees;
5. It is time to make Albany work for all New Yorkers, not just big donors.