

1 **NYSAC Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs**
2 **2020 Legislative Conference**
3 **Resolution #1**

4 **Resolution Urging Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the State Legislature to**
5 **Continue the Funding Commitment for all Costs Associated with Early**
6 **Voting Reforms Implemented at the County Level**

7 **WHEREAS**, counties through local Boards of Elections are responsible for managing
8 election operations, and paying for all or most of the costs associated with these
9 operations; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the 2019 State Legislative Session included many election reforms,
11 including the authorization of electronic poll books and provisions for early voting; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the State's new early voting law required counties to open polling sites for
13 early voting for 10 days prior to the 2019 general election; and

14 **WHEREAS**, there are three elections in 2020 that will require counties to provide
15 opportunities for early voting: the presidential primary, the June primary, and the
16 general election in November, and

17 **WHEREAS**, the enacted SFY 2020 State Budget included \$14.7 million in capital
18 equipment aid and \$10 million in operational aid support to assist counties with
19 implementing these election law reforms; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the Executive SFY 2021 State Budget proposal includes no funding for
21 early voting; and

22 **WHEREAS**, counties are grateful for the state assistance in 2020, but without
23 continued state financial assistance, these costs will be borne by county property
24 taxpayers.

25 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the New York State Association of Counties
26 urges the Governor and State Legislature to continue to fund election law reforms at
27 SFY 2020 levels; and

28 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to the counties
29 of New York State encouraging member counties to enact similar resolutions; and

30 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the New York State Association of Counties shall
31 forward copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, the New York State
32 Legislature, the Board of Elections, and all others deemed necessary.