

1 **2023 NYSAC Legislative Conference**
2 **Standing Committee on Agriculture & Rural Affairs**
3 **Resolution #2**

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5 **Resolution in Support of the Federal Protecting School Milk Choices Act**
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7 **WHEREAS**, milk represents an essential way for kids to get the nutrients they need for
8 healthy growth and development; and

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10 **WHEREAS**, research finds that children who drink flavored milk consume more
11 nutrients of concern like calcium, vitamin D, and potassium compared to non-flavored
12 milk drinkers; and

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14 **WHEREAS**, leading health groups like the American Academy of Pediatrics, the
15 Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the School Nutrition Association, and the American
16 Heart Association also acknowledge the important role that flavored milk plays in
17 ensuring kids get the three cups of milk and milk products recommended by the Dietary
18 Guidelines for Americans; and

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20 **WHEREAS**, studies have shown that reducing or eliminating the availability of
21 flavored milk in schools has led to overall decreased milk consumption and increased
22 food waste; and

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24 **WHEREAS**, research shows that flavored milk consumption is not associated with
25 weight gain or even a higher total daily sugar intake in children as most flavored milks
26 contain less sugar than the cap of 22 grams per eight-ounce serving recommended by
27 the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM); and

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29 **WHEREAS**, New York’s counties are committed to supporting the dairy farmers,
30 producers, and agriculture partners across New York, while also ensuring that all New
31 York school children have access to life-enhancing nutrients; and

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33 **WHEREAS**, milk is New York State’s largest agricultural commodity and is produced
34 by more than 3,500 farms; and

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36 **WHEREAS**, any actions that prevent flavored milk from being served in schools would
37 not only deny children access to a healthy and nutritious option that increases
38 participation in school breakfast and lunch programs but would also be detrimental to
39 New York’s dairy industry.

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41 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the New York State Association of
42 Counties (NYSAC), in recognition of the legacy of former Assemblyman William MaGee,
43 supports legislation to ensure schools participating in the National School Lunch
44 Program offer students at least one flavored milk option; and

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

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4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSAC shall forward copies of this resolution to
5 members of the New York State Congressional Delegation, House Majority Leader
6 McCarthy, and all others deemed necessary and proper.