



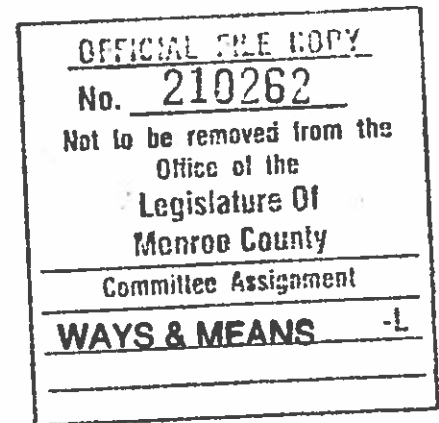
Monroe County Legislature

GEORGE J. HEBERT

LEGISLATOR – DISTRICT 15

July 12, 2021

To the Honorable
Monroe County Legislature
407 County Office Building
Rochester, New York 14614



Subject: Amending Resolution 134 of 2020, As Amended by Resolution 276 of 2020, Entitled “Accepting Grant from United States Treasury for Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act,” to Ensure Collaboration of Government and Legislative Fiscal Oversight

Honorable Legislators:

In April of 2020, this Honorable Body accepted \$129 million in federal funding through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The express purpose of this funding was to assist our residents, businesses and government agencies in fighting and recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the past year, this funding has served as a means to bolster small businesses, assist local government, and provide for a comprehensive response to the pandemic.

Late last year, as a result of difficulty accessing spending reports, this Honorable Body voted to require weekly reporting for CARES Act expenditures. In addition to requiring necessary transparency, this Administration has purposely circumvented the Legislature through spending maneuvers expressly intended to avoid Legislature approval. The great latitude in spending afforded to the County Executive was appropriate when this funding was accepted, however over a year later it is clear this funding has not always been spent transparently, collaboratively or properly to benefit the entirety of our community.

This legislative action allows for greater fiscal oversight and collaboration with the Administration for this Honorable Body. As done with American Rescue Plan funds, this legislative action would necessitate the approval of both branches of Monroe County government for any future CARES Act expenditure. The Legislature has been diligent in meeting quickly when it is required, therefore any appropriate and necessary use of funding is able to be approved expeditiously. It is the duty of this Honorable Body to protect taxpayers and review expenditures of the County carefully and with scrutiny; enacting this legislation will ensure that this is done.

The specific legislative actions required is to amend Resolution 134 of 2020, as amended by Resolution 276 of 2020, to require that no amount of money shall be expensed,

charged, appropriated, reserved, encumbered, committed, posted, transferred or otherwise utilized within general fund 9001, funds center 120907100 except by resolution of the County Legislature and approval by the County Executive as set forth in Section C2-7 of the Monroe County Charter.

This is a Type II Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR 617.5(c) (26) ("routine of continuing agency administration and management, not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment") and is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

This action will have no impact on the revenues or expenditures of the current Monroe County budget.

Respectfully Submitted,



George J. Hebert
Monroe County Legislator
District 15