By Legislators DiFlorio and Boyce

Intro. No. _____

RESOLUTION NO. _____ OF 2017

AUTHORIZING INITIATION OF PROCESS FOR MAKING ADDITIONS TO MONROE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF MONROE, as follows:

Section 1.   The Clerk of the Legislature is hereby authorized to publish and post notice of the 30-day submission period for requests to include land, which is predominantly viable agricultural land, within certified Monroe County Agricultural Districts.

Section 2.   The Monroe County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board are hereby directed to prepare and submit a report, within 30 days of the termination of the submission period, with its recommendations as to whether inclusion of each piece of land proposed to be included in the certified agricultural districts a) consists predominantly of viable agricultural land and b) would serve the public interest by assisting in viable agricultural industry within the certified agricultural districts.

Section 3.   This resolution shall take effect in accordance with Section C2-7 of the Monroe County Charter.

Planning and Economic Development Committee; January 23, 2017 - CV: 5-0
File No. 17-0003

ADOPTION: Date: _____   Vote: _____

ACTION BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED: _____   VETOED: _____

SIGNATURE: _____   DATE: _____
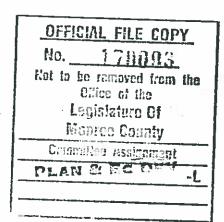
EFFECTIVE DATE OF RESOLUTION: _____

Office of the County Executive

MONROE COUNTY, NEW YORK

Cheryl Dinolfo
County Executive

January 6, 2017

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

Subject: Authorize the Initiation of the Process for Making Additions to Monroe County
            Agricultural Districts

Honorable Legislators:

I recommend that Your Honorable Body authorize the initiation of the process for making additions to Monroe County's Agricultural Districts.

Section 303-b of the Agriculture and Markets Law requires Your Honorable Body establish an annual 30-day period during which landowners can submit proposals to include land that is predominantly viable agricultural land within a certified agricultural district. Monroe County would begin this addition process by publishing a general notice to make landowners aware of the 30-day submission period. At the end of the 30-day submission period all requests for inclusion will be referred to the Monroe County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board (AFPB) for its recommendations. The AFPB then has 30 days to make a recommendation to Your Honorable Body concerning any proposed additions to the certified agricultural districts. Upon receipt of the recommendation, Your Honorable Body must hold a public hearing before taking action to adopt or reject the addition of any parcels to any district. A second referral will be submitted to Your Honorable Body after the report of the AFPB to schedule the public hearing and recommend adoption or rejection of the addition of parcels to any district.

The specific legislative actions required are:

1.   Authorize the Clerk of the Legislature to publish and post notice of the 30-day submission period for requests to include land, which is predominantly viable agricultural land, within certified Monroe County agricultural districts.

2. Direct the Monroe County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board to prepare and submit a report, within 30-days of the termination of the submission period, with its recommendations as to whether inclusion of each piece of land proposed to be included in the certified agricultural districts a) consists predominantly of viable agricultural land and b) would serve the public interest by assisting in maintaining a viable agricultural industry within the certified agricultural districts.

Environmental assessments were completed for this action and it was determined that there would be no significant effect on the environment.

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

I recommend that this matter be referred to the appropriate committee(s) for favorable action by Your Honorable Body.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Dinolfo
Monroe County Executive

CD:db