

RESOLUTION: REPEAL OF THE NEW YORK STATE HALT ACT

WHEREAS, the Town of Collins is requesting a home rule resolution, calling on the NYS Legislature to REPEAL the New York State HALT Act.

WHEREAS, while the New York State HALT Act may have been written with good intentions, its application has created a hazardous and unlawful environment which jeopardizes both staff and incarcerated individuals alike; and

WHEREAS, Correction Officers work in facilities to maintain good working order to keep incarcerated individuals, staff and the community safe by communicating well, remaining disciplined all while handling extremely dangerous situations inside the facility; and

WHEREAS, working in correctional facilities takes a physical and mental toll on Corrections Officers and their Families, especially while being mandated to work shifts 24 hours or more at one time; and

WHEREAS, with the implementation of the New York State HALT Act, Corrections Officers are not permitted to utilize SHU for long term disciplinary action and have no recourse for violence toward other incarcerated individuals or staff, causing the rate of violent assaults to nearly double.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; the Town of Collins is demanding the full repeal of the New York State HALT Act until it can be researched and revised with Input from Correctional staff.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to Honorable Governor Kathy Hochul, Honorable Speaker of the Assembly Carl E. Heastie, Honorable Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Honorable Republican Senate Minority Leader Robert G. Ort, Honorable Majority Leader of the Assembly Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes, Honorable Minority Leader of the Assembly William A. Barclay, and the Western New York Delegation and Erie County Executive Mark Poloncarz and the Erie County Legislature.