

JANUARY 17, 2008

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
REPORT NO. 1

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT

1. RESOLVED, the following item is hereby received and filed:
 - a. COMM. 18M-6 (2007)
COLUCCI & GALLAHER, P.C.: ECMCC Board of Director Meeting Minutes for Meeting Held 9/27/07
(4-0)
 - b. COMM. 21M-7 (2007)
ECMC: Board Minutes for Meeting Held 10/25/07
(4-0)
 - c. COMM. 25M-3 (2007)
ECMCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Minutes for Meeting Held 11/29/07
(4-0)
2. INTRO 26-7 (2007)
REYNOLDS
WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Erie County Legislature to put the best interest of their constituency above all else, and

WHEREAS, the fundamental purpose stated by the final recommendation of the Commission on Healthcare Facilities in the 21st Century with regard to ECMC and Kaleida Healthcare Systems was to end the "medical arms race" and prevent duplication of services, a purpose that this body believes was fulfilled by the creation of the existing third party, or "parent" WNY Healthcare board, and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of all Erie County residents for the county to maintain a public facility that has the specific mission of serving the "public good", and

WHEREAS, no impact study has been done to determine the long term and possibly detrimental effect that the proposed merger may have on the elderly, sick, and uninsured, and

WHEREAS, no impact study has been done to determine the long term and possibly detrimental effect that the proposed merger may have on the local economy, and

WHEREAS, ECMC is a Level 1 Trauma Center and is the first line of defense in response to a natural disaster, terrorist attack, public health crises, or any other mass casualty incident and is therefore responsible for the well being of residents all across the entire Western New York region, and

WHEREAS, public and private healthcare facilities have two fundamentally different missions, and therefore it is in the best interest for our community to have both available to them, and

WHEREAS, ECMC has attained financial peace with Erie County, and there is no need to privatize a well operated, financially sound public entity, and

WHEREAS, while it is the belief of this body that New York State's healthcare system is broken and in need of reform, it is also our belief that a truly re formed, efficient healthcare system is one that offers quality, accessible care to all people, which a full asset merger of ECMC and Kaleida Healthcare Systems will not accomplish.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that The Erie County Legislature reaffirms our belief that the safety net provided to our community by ECMC is absolutely vital and must not be jeopardized, and be it further

RESOVLED, that the Erie County Legislature will not seek support from the New York State Legislature (or: deems it unnecessary) to eliminate or alter the NYS Public Authorities Law, section 3629, which created the public benefit corporation of ECMCC.
(4-0)

3. COMM. 1E-26 (2008)
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
RESOLVED, the Erie County Legislature does hereby confirm the appointment of Dr. Anthony Billittier to the position of Commissioner of Health.
(4-0)

4. COMM. 1E-36 (2008) **AS AMENDED**
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
RESOLVED, the Erie County Legislature does hereby appoint Philip R. Endress as Commissioner of Senior Services for an interim term to expire on March 15, 2008.
(4-0)

THOMAS J. MAZUR
CHAIRPERSON