SUSPENSION



A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY LEGISLATORS GREENE, MILLS, TODARO and MALCZEWSKI

Re: Requesting that Michael Joseph be Suspended from Board Positions at the Buffalo AKG Art Museum and Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center Pending an Investigation of Clover Management

WHEREAS, Michael Joseph is a member of the board of directors for both the Buffalo AKG Art Museum and Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center; and

WHEREAS, the Buffalo AKG Art Museum receives millions of dollars in support from Erie County; and

WHEREAS, the Clover Group, a company whose CEO is Michael Joseph, has been accused of implementing racist policies that have harmed minority communities; and

WHEREAS, Clover Management has received millions of dollars in tax breaks from Erie County in the form of PILOT agreements; and

WHEREAS, the allegations against the Clover Group have raised serious concerns about Michael Joseph's ability to fulfill his duties as a board member for the Buffalo AKG Art Museum and Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center; and

WHEREAS, the Buffalo AKG Art Museum and Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center are important institutions in our community, and it is crucial that their board members are committed to upholding the values of fairness and equality and that board members of these institutions ensure that they are free from discriminatory practices and policies; and

WHEREAS, given Michael Joseph's ties to Erie County both in business dealings and boards on which he serves, it is important that this legislative resolution serves as a clear message that the citizens of our community will not tolerate any form of discrimination or prejudice, and that those who are responsible for implementing such practices will be held accountable for their actions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature urges the boards of Buffalo AKG Art Museum and Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center to take necessary steps to suspend Michael Joseph from his board positions with the Buffalo AKG Art Museum and Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center until an investigation into the allegations against the Clover Group is complete; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the investigation should be conducted by an independent third party, and the results should be made public; and be it further

RESOLVED, that if the investigation finds evidence of discriminatory practices and policies, Michael Joseph should resign from his board positions with the Buffalo AKG Art Museum and Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Buffalo AKG Art Museum, Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, the New York State Governor and the Erie County Executive.