

Eugene Cook
Councilman



Town Hall
100 Main Street
Huntington, NY

Phone: 631-351-3174

May 10, 2023

Filed
Date: 5/30/23
Office of the Town Clerk Town of Olive
DEI

Honorable Dawn Giuditta, Town Clerk
Town of Olive
PO Box 96
West Shokan, NY 12494

RE: Town of Huntington Voter's Identification Resolution

Dear Honorable Town Clerk Giuditta,

I hope that this finds you well. On May 9, 2023 the Huntington Town Board passed the attached resolution urging the New York State Legislature and Governor Hochul to draft and enact legislation regarding a voter's identification process. Please distribute this cover letter and attached resolution to the Town of Olive Board Members.

The reason I sponsored this resolution, is that I was approached by various constituents of varying political affiliation about their concerns regarding the accuracy of voter rolls maintained by the of Board of Elections. In an economy where the Board of Elections may not have the funding or the staffing to regularly purge the voters rolls of individuals who may have relocated or have passed away, I believe that New York State needs to address the matter in a way that builds the public's confidence and ensures a fair election process. By urging our state representatives to work in a bipartisan manner to create a voter's identification process, this will allow for a fair and consistent procedure to keep voter rolls current and uphold the principles of democracy that the United States was built on.

I thank you for your time and cooperation with this matter, it's greatly appreciated. Please feel free to contact me at 631 351 3174 to discuss this matter further.

Warmest regards in the spirit of cooperation,



Councilman Eugene Cook
Town of Huntington

Eugene Cook
Councilman

Joan Cergol
Councilwoman

Edmund J. Smyth
Supervisor

Dr. Dave Bennardo
Councilman

Salvatore Ferro
Councilman

2023-203

RESOLUTION URGING THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR
KATHY HOCHUL TO DRAFT AND ENACT LEGISLATION REGARDING A
VOTER'S IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

Resolution for Town Board Meeting Dated: May 9, 2023

The following resolution was offered by: **COUNCILMAN COOK**

and seconded by: **COUNCILMAN BENNARDO**

WHEREAS, this country was formed on the principles of democracy and our forefathers fought for our right to elect our representation; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the states in the U.S. require a voter's identification to increase the public's confidence and ensure a fair election process; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Elections may not get notification of a voter registering in another location or of a death of a registered voter; and

WHEREAS, in an economy where the Board of Elections may not have sufficient funding or staffing to purge voters rolls of individuals who no longer live in each election district or county, as required; and

WHEREAS, in a day and age where the ability to work does not necessarily need to be where you live, this allows for more individuals to be transient in nature and the addition of voter's identification will assist in keeping all voter rolls current; and

WHEREAS, in the State of New York the requirement is to compare the signature on file, this doesn't necessarily help maintain current voter registration, as name and address changes are not necessarily communicated in the current process, also this would assist in the purging of the roles of individuals who are no longer active voters in that county; and

WHEREAS, the subject of the resolution is not an action as defined by 6 N.Y.C.R.R. §617.2 (b), and therefore no further SEQRA review is required.

NOW, THEREFORE,

THE TOWN BOARD

HEREBY REQUESTS the New York State Legislature and Governor Hochul to draft and enact legislation to allow for a voter's identification process to assist with maintaining voter's registration rolls; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to Governor Hochul, Andrea Stewart-Cousins, President Pro Tempore and Majority Leader, Carl E. Heastie, Speaker of the Assembly and the Huntington Delegation to the New York State Legislature: Assemblyman Steve Stern, Assemblyman Keith Brown, and Senator Mario Mattera.

2023-203

to the New York State Legislature: Assemblyman Steve Stern, Assemblyman Keith Brown,
and Senator Mario Mattera.

VOTE: AYES: 3 NOES: 2 ABSTENTIONS: 0

Supervisor Edmund J. Smyth	NO
Councilman Dr. Dave Bennardo	AYE
Councilwoman Joan A. Cergol	NO
Councilman Eugene Cook	AYE
Councilman Salvatore Ferro	AYE

THE RESOLUTION WAS THEREUPON DECLARED DULY ADOPTED