

ACT NO. 412-2021 by Mr. Burr
who asks immediate consideration

**URGING PRESERVATION OF EXISTING BOUNDARIES OF
NEW YORK STATE'S 57TH SENATE AND 148TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS**

Pursuant to Section 153 of the County Law.

WHEREAS, redistricting in the State of New York is the process of drawing new congressional and state legislative district boundaries wherein the process is completed every ten (10) years following the completion of the United State Census, and New York's 26 United States Representatives and 213 State Legislators are all elected from political divisions called districts, and

WHEREAS, New York State law requires that State Legislative Districts be contiguous and compact, and must also take into account the "historic and traditional significance of counties", and

WHEREAS, the history and tradition of Cattaraugus County is that it has been included within a congressional district encompassing New York State's Southern Tier Region, and

WHEREAS, the counties along New York State's Southern Tier constitute a substantial community of interest, with a common and integrated regional economy, and

WHEREAS, the residents of the 57th Senate District and the 148th Assembly District have common concerns about access to quality health care and the sustainability of rural health care providers, and

WHEREAS, in 2014, New Yorkers voted to give the responsibility of redistricting to an Independent Redistricting Commission with input from citizens to devise the best possible redistricting plan, and

WHEREAS, citizen participation will help ensure that no region of the state, special interest or political party gains an unfair advantage in the redistricting process, and

WHEREAS, existing counties should not be divided between multiple districts in either the Senate or the Assembly, and

WHEREAS, as the current construction of New York's 57th Senate District and 148th Assembly District have well served the residents of the Cattaraugus County and it is generally compact, contiguous and respects municipal boundaries, the Independent Redistricting Commission of New York State and the New York State Legislature should make every effort to preserve the Districts' existing boundaries to the greatest extent practicable, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Cattaraugus County Legislature strongly urges the Independent Redistricting Commission of New York State and the New York State Legislature to make every effort to preserve New York's 57th Senate District and 148th Assembly District's existing boundaries, and be it further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be sent to the Independent Redistricting Commission, Senate Temporary President Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Senate Minority Leader Robert Ort, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, Assembly Minority Leader William Barclay, Senate Local Government Committee Chair James Gaughran, Assembly Local Government Committee Chair Fred Thiele, Senator George Borrello, Assemblyman Joseph Giglio, the New York State Association of Counties, and all others deemed necessary and proper.

Adopted October 27, 2021 by voice vote.