RESOLUTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION / VETERANS’ AFFAIRS URGING THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS THAT SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZE THE CONTINUED USE OF LEVER-STYLE VOTING MACHINES

WHEREAS, Herkimer County has successfully used highly accurate lever voting machines for many decades with very few problems and wants to continues using them; and

WHEREAS, Herkimer County believes that continues use of lever voting machines is in the best interest of the public, that unlike optical scan computers, our time-proved lever machines can be relied upon to accurately count votes as cast and cost far less; and

WHEREAS, our lever machines now comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) because New York has installed ballot marking devices for voting by disabled persons; and

WHEREAS, New York State’s enactment of the Election Reform and Modernization Act of 2005 (ERMA) predates installation of the ballot marking devices for disabled person voting and New York now complies with HAVA; and

WHEREAS, the State’s statutorily required elimination of lever machines through ERMA is no longer necessary, is inappropriate, and exorbitantly costly to Herkimer County taxpayers; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Herkimer County Legislature hereby requests the New York State Legislature and the New York State Board of Elections to enact laws, rules, and regulations that specifically authorize continued use of our lever voting machines; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Paterson, Senator Seward, Assemblyman Butler, Co-Executive Directors of the NYS Board of Elections Todd Valentine and Stanley Zalen; NYS Board of Elections Commissioner James Walsh, Douglas Kellner, Evelyn Aquila, and Gregory Peterson; Herkimer County Board of Election Commissions; NYSAC, Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor and Budget Officer.

Dated: June 10, 2009.

Jean E. Maneen
Bruce Weakley
Frederick J. Shaw, Jr.
Peter F. Mannino
John L. Brezinski
Daniel R. Carter
Committee on Administration / Veterans’ Affairs

I, CAROLE L. LaLONDE, Clerk of the Legislature of Herkimer County, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of Resolution No. /7/ with the original duly adopted by the above mentioned board at a session held on 10th day of June, 2009, and that the same is a true copy of said original and of the whole thereof.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the official seal of said legislature this 11th day of June, 2009.

L.S.