

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
Resolution No. IDA-20-02-03  
February 21, 2020

**SUPPORT FOR THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF  
THE NEW YORK STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES IN ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, St. Lawrence County has a long history of seeking, welcoming and supporting New York State Correctional Facilities, and

**WHEREAS**, this support of the New York State Correctional system enabled the State to find locations for its facilities at times when other communities were not willing to accept these facilities, and

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Correctional Facilities in St. Lawrence County continue to enjoy unmatched local support from not only the host communities of Gouverneur and Ogdensburg, but also from the greater St. Lawrence County and North Country regions, and

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Correctional Facilities in St. Lawrence County have distinguished themselves for decades due to the safety, efficiency, and overall high standards of their operations, and

**WHEREAS**, the three correctional facilities combined provide close to \$100 million in payroll and provide for approximately 1,000 jobs that help to improve the quality of life in Northern New York, and

**WHEREAS**, the employees of the local correctional facilities reside in the North Country, make purchases here, and support our local businesses, hospitals, and schools, thereby contributing to the local economy and making our region a better place to live and raise a family, and

**WHEREAS**, with higher property values and more robust environments for commercial activity other areas of the State offer more opportunity for the adaptive reuse of closed facilities, and

**WHEREAS**, such facilities, in more expensive areas of the State, have historically been easier to redevelop, in so doing add to the tax base and economic vitality of the State, and

**WHEREAS**, there are already 500,000 square feet of vacant State-owned buildings in St. Lawrence County which were formerly part of the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center, and

**WHEREAS**, these buildings, left abandoned and unused, provide no economic value either locally or to the State and are clear demonstration of the difficulty repurposing closed State facilities in this area, and

**WHEREAS**, the loss of jobs and payroll at any one of the State Correctional Facilities in St. Lawrence County would be a devastating blow to what is already one of the most economically distressed areas of New York State, and

**WHEREAS**, the operation of New York State Correctional Facilities in St. Lawrence County has been beneficial both to New York State and to St. Lawrence County,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the St. Lawrence County Industrial Development Agency strongly supports the continued operation of the Gouverneur, Ogdensburg and Riverview Correctional Facilities and urges New York State not to include these facilities as part of any correctional facility closure plans, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to New York Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, New York Senators Griffo, Little and Ritchie, and New York Assembly Members Blankenbush, Jones, Smullen, and Walczyk.

Move:	Reagen			
Second:	Blevins			
<b>VOTE</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Blevins	X			
Hall	X			
LaBaff				X
McMahon	X			
Reagen	X			
Staples	X			
Morrill	X			

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have compared this copy of this Resolution with the original record in this office, and that the same is a correct transcript thereof and of the whole of said original record.

/s/

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Lori Sibley  
February 21, 2020