

RESOLUTION calling for the Town Board of Enfield, Tompkins County, New York to recognize the traditional Cayuga Nation’s Council of Chiefs and Clanmothers as the rightful governing body of the Cayuga Nation.

WHEREAS, the Town of Enfield, New York is located within the traditional territory of the Gayogohó:nq’ (Cayuga Nation) of the Haudenosaunee Six Nation Confederacy (Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, Seneca and Tuscarora), and

WHEREAS, in the aftermath of the Revolutionary War, the Canandaigua Treaty of 1794, signed by President George Washington’s agent Colonel Timothy Pickering and Chiefs representing the Grand Council of the Six Nations of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, begins by stating in Article 1, that “Peace and friendship are hereby firmly established, and shall be perpetual, between the United States and the Six Nations” and

WHEREAS, the Canandaigua Treaty remains in force to this day, as evidenced by the continued payment by the United States of an annual sum of \$4500 in the form of treaty cloth to the Six Nations peoples, affirming the ongoing obligations of the United States under this treaty, and

WHEREAS, Article VII of the Canandaigua Treaty establishes a process for resolving conflicts, stating that “complaint shall be made by the party injured, to the other; by the Six Nations or any of them, to the President of the United States...and such prudent measures shall then be pursued, as shall be necessary to preserve our peace and friendship unbroken...” and

WHEREAS, the “federal representative” recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs has caused injury to the Cayuga Nation people, as reported in detail by the accompanying letters from the traditional Cayuga Nation Council of Chiefs dated Feb 23, 2020 and May 15, 2021, and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, by its continued recognition of a “federal representative” long-since removed from that role through internal Cayuga Nation governance processes, undermines the Cayuga Nation’s sovereignty to act and govern without interference as a sovereign nation.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the Town of Enfield recognizes the traditional Cayuga Nation Council of Chiefs and Clanmothers as the singular, longstanding and rightful governing body of the Cayuga Nation, with which all levels of the United States government, including the Town of Enfield, should engage in a Government-to-Government relationship, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Enfield dispatch a letter to the Bureau of Indian Affairs urging it to remove its “federal representative” designation from Clint Halftown, and instead recognize and heed the decision making authority of the traditional Cayuga Nation Council of Chiefs and Clanmothers.