

# RESOLUTION

## Resolution of Support for State Funding for the “Free Bus Program”

WHEREAS, New York State has provided free bus service for families from New York City, Albany, Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo to visit their incarcerated family members in prisons throughout the state since 1973; and

WEHREAS, studies show that inmates are better able to re-enter society and adjust to life outside prison if, during their sentence, they can keep connected with their family; and

WHEREAS, all funding for the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision’s Family Visiting Program (aka the “Free Bus Program”) was “suspended until further notice” in January 2011 and completely eliminated in July 2011; and

WHEREAS, 57,000 inmates at 61 prisons – and their 80,000 children - have been negatively effected by the elimination of the Free Bus Program; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chelsea Reform Democratic Club urges the Governor and the Legislature to restore funding for the Free Bus Program.

Submitted by,  
Chelsea Reform Democratic Club

Steven Skyles-Mulligan, President  
January 5, 2012



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and

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