

BUFFALO FISCAL STABILITY AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION NO. 05 - 15

HONORING THOMAS E. BAKER, BFSA'S FIRST CHAIRMAN

WHEREAS, on July 3, 2003, New York State Governor George Pataki signed into law Chapter 122 of the Laws of 2003, also known as the Buffalo Fiscal Stability Authority Act, which created the Buffalo Fiscal Stability Authority ("BFSA") to have a broad range of financial control and oversight power with respect to the City of Buffalo's finances and the finances of any non-exempt covered organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Governor appointed and designated Thomas E. Baker, the President of the John R. Oishei Foundation as Director and Chairman of the Authority on August 1, 2003; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Baker displayed strong leadership right from the start, setting a pragmatic and authoritative tone for the BFSA's meetings; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Baker presided over eighteen meetings of the BFSA, given numerous speeches and attended various meetings, in a tireless effort to promote the mission of the BFSA to help restore long-term fiscal stability to the City of Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as Chairman, Mr. Baker oversaw the implementation of two Four-Year Financial Plans, designed to identify future budget shortfalls and gap closing strategies; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker led the way in facilitating the historic consolidation of the City's Parks function with the Erie County Parks and Recreation Department, generating \$3.4 million in savings and encouraged the City of Buffalo and its covered organizations to utilize a single health insurance carrier, which saved \$6 million in 2004-05 without sacrificing employee benefits; and

WHEREAS, with some regret, Mr. Baker has resigned as Chairman to continue his good works with the Oishei Foundation and to enjoy time with his family; and

WHEREAS, the accomplishments of Mr. Baker are too vast to recite, yet he should be credited for building a professional organization, led by Dorothy A. Johnson as Executive Director, that will continue in the tradition he has established;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Buffalo Fiscal Stability Authority does hereby adjourn its meeting of January 26, 2005 in honor and appreciation of Chairman Thomas E. Baker for his invaluable contribution and commitment to this region, the City of Buffalo and its covered organizations and the Buffalo Fiscal Stability Authority.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 26, 2005

/S/ Richard Tobe
Richard Tobe
Secretary