

**Mayor Blais, seconded by Trustee Perry, offered the following resolution:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 122, 2020**

**WHEREAS the Village of Lake George, its residents, local businesses, and tourists depend on and value the students who participate in the J-1 Visa Exchange Visitor Program - Summer Work Travel Program to meet the demands of visiting tourists during the summer season; and**

**WHEREAS the Presidential Proclamation issued on June 22, 2020, suspended the Summer Work Travel Program through December 31, 2020, with the possibility of extension; and**

**WHEREAS during the 2019 season there were approximately 1,000 Summer Work Travel participants employed within the Lake George Region, and**

**WHEREAS due to the suspension and loss of Summer Work Travel Program participants, Summer Work Travel Host Employers have needed to reduce services and operating hours, close off portions of their facilities, and turn away customers; and**

**WHEREAS a recent survey of Summer Work Travel Host Employers found the average employer laid off or furloughed ten employees each, and lost on average \$250,000. in revenues, because of the loss of Summer Work Travel participants; and**

**WHEREAS the Village of Lake George is committed to ensuring American employees are protected during these difficult economic times, but that not nearly enough Americans are applying for the seasonal jobs offered in Lake George, and certainly not enough to replace the lost Summer Work Travel Program participants; and**

**WHEREAS the Presidential Proclamation 10014 of April 22, 2020, as amended by the Presidential Proclamation of 22 June 2020 has a specific provision for periodically reviewing the suspension of programs like the Summer Work Travel program from the Proclamation's suspension, such as the 30 and 60 day reviews directed by the modifications to Section 4 of the Presidential Proclamation 10014; and**

**WHEREAS Section 3(b)(iv) the Presidential Proclamation of June 22, 2020 provides that the Secretaries of State and/or the Secretary of Homeland Security can determine which groups, like Summer Work Travel, can be exempted from the suspension because their entry would be in the national interest of the United States; and Resolution No 20-09-XXX Support of J-1 Visa Exchange Visitor Program BOC Meeting September 2, 2020**

**WHEREAS Section 4(a)(i) of the Presidential Proclamation of June 22, 2020 further directs those Secretaries, along with the Secretary of Labor, to define categories like the Summer Work Travel program to be exempted per the procedures of Section 3(b)(iv) who can facilitate the immediate and continued economic recovery of the United States can determine which groups, like Summer Work Travel, can be exempted from the suspension because their entry would be in the national interest of the United States; and**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Lake George determines the immediate resumption of the Summer Work Travel Program is necessary to the**

immediate and continuing economic recovery of businesses within the Village of Lake George, wholeheartedly endorses the State Department's Summer Work Travel program, and:

1. Petitions the White House and Trump Administration to issue a National Interest Exemption for Economic Recovery during the next 60-Day Review, as provided by Section 3(b)(iv) and 4(a)(i) of the Presidential Proclamation of June 22, 2020;
2. Asks the federal Congressional delegation for the Village of Lake George to engage the White House in support of this National Interest Exemption;
3. Directs the Clerk of the Village to send a copy of this Resolution to the President and all federal Congressional Members representing Lake George;
4. Encourages all Village residents to participate in events and initiatives that will raise the overall awareness of the need for the resumption of the Summer Work Travel Program and to engage their Congressional Representatives asking them to support this program as well; and
5. Supports the Lake George Student Connection and Summer Work Travel Program sponsors as they help our Village resume this program.

VOTING      Ayes: 4      Blais, Earl, Root, Perry  
                 Nays: 0  
                 Absent: 1      Mastrodomenico


RESOLUTION NO. 122, 2020 ADOPTED.

October 5, 2020



Robert M. Blais, Mayor  
Village of Lake George

ATTEST:

  
Debra J. McKinney, Clerk  
Village of Lake George

