

COUNTY OF ERIE BOARD OF ELECTIONS RESOLUTION NUMBER , 2024* AS AMENDED

**“Approval of the Extension of the Deadline to Register to Vote
in the County of Erie to April 9, 2024”**

WHEREAS, on April 8th, 2024, Erie County, Pennsylvania will be in the direct line of a total solar eclipse that will traverse across North America; and

WHEREAS, this event is expected to see the population of the City of Erie, which is approximately 93,000, and the population of the County of Erie, which is approximately 270,000, receive an unprecedented influx of visitors of maybe 200,000 people in the days leading up to and including the day of the event; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated volume of people will cause significant traffic congestion, with PennDOT estimating movement being one (1) mile per four (4) hours; and

WHEREAS, the expected spike in population for the event will likely cause a strain on first responders, hospital systems, deliveries, food, grocery, and fuel supplies; and

WHEREAS, the over capacity of city, county, state, and federal streets, roads and highways may create a public safety event whereby law enforcement and fire and rescue officers may become impeded from responding to calls for service; and

WHEREAS, allowing the County of Erie Voter Registration and Election Offices to remain open to the public on April 8, 2024 would require the presence of the Sheriff's Office to serve at the Courthouse on a day where emergency personnel are needed in the community; and

WHEREAS, citizens would normally have the opportunity to register to vote and also cast a mail in or absentee ballot on the dates established by the Pennsylvania Department of State, one of those dates being April 8, 2024; and

WHEREAS, April 8, 2024 is the last date to register to vote in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the Presidential Primary and it is important for citizens to have access to the Voter Registration and Election Offices during these timeframes;

WHEREAS, extending the deadline for the Last Day to Register to Vote by one (1) day would allow citizens the opportunity to register to vote, cast a mail in or absentee ballot on April 9, 2024 instead of April 8, 2024; would reduce the public safety risk to voters and employees who would have had to travel into the city on April 8, 2024 and provide an opportunity for the Sheriff's Office to be available in the community;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE COUNTY OF ERIE BOARD OF ELECTIONS, pursuant to the Home Rule Charter Article I, Section 2, the Pennsylvania Election Code, and the Order of Court dated March 8, 2024, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein, the deadline for the Last Day to Register to Vote in the County of Erie for the 2024 Primary Election shall be extended one day from April 8, 2024 to April 9, 2024 is hereby recommended to Council by the Erie County Board of Elections.

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, this resolution was passed on this _____ day of _____, 2024 by a vote of ____ to ____.

ATTEST:

Karen Chillcott
County Clerk

Date: _____

APPROVED BY:
ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

André Horton, Chair

Chris Drexel, Vice Chair

Charlie Bayle

Rock Copeland

Terry M. Scutella

Ellen Schauerman

Jim Winarski