

# RESOLUTION

## Sweetened Beverage Tax

WHEREAS, US. per capita consumption of soft drinks is now fifty (50) gallons per year or over 170 calories per day, which is the largest single contributor to caloric intake in the United States, and

WHEREAS, consumption of sweetened beverages, is highly correlated to diabetes and obesity in both children and adults, and

WHEREAS, New York's childhood obesity rate alarmingly increased three fold over three decades with approximately 40% of New York's elementary students now being over-weight or obese, and

WHEREAS, Obesity-related health problems such as diabetes result in enormous health costs, lost learning and productivity, and shortened life spans, and

WHEREAS, Thirty-three states already have taxes on soft drinks which have been proven to decrease soft drink consumption and obesity in both adults and children and increase consumption of healthier beverages such as juice and milk, and

WHEREAS, a one cent per ounce tax on sweetened drinks would add up to a projected \$450 million for the State of New York per year which could be used for obesity prevention and health programs for children and adults, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the members of the Chelsea Reform Democratic Club support a one cent (\$.01) per once tax on all sweetened beverages including but not limited to soda, sweetened water, sports drinks, "energy" drinks, colas, fruit or vegetable drinks containing less than 70% natural fruit or vegetable juice, and bottled, sweetened coffee or tea to be appropriated for nutrition and obesity prevention and treatment programs for children and adults.

Submitted by,

Chelsea Reform Democratic Club

Steven Skyles-Mulligan, President  
Judy Richheimer, Acting President

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