COUNTY OF TIOGA EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: Winter storms and blizzards can bring extreme cold, freezing rain, snow, sleet, ice, and high winds across the entire United States lasting a few hours or several days; and

WHEREAS: Winter weather is associated with numerous health and safety impacts including a higher risk of car accidents, personal injury, hypothermia, frostbite, carbon monoxide poisoning, and heart attacks from overexertion; and

WHEREAS: Accumulations of snow and ice can isolate communities by way of road closures or blockages and communication services, and can knock out heat or power, posing a greater risk to older adults, young children, and immunocompromised individuals; and

WHEREAS: Sixty-six hundred United States residents died from exposure to excessive natural cold, hypothermia, or both between the years of 2006 and 2010; and

WHEREAS: Each year, 24% of weather-related vehicle crashes occur on snowy, slushy, or icy pavement and 15% occur during snowfall or sleet, resulting in at least 1,300 deaths and nearly 117,000 injuries annually; and

WHEREAS: Between 1950 and 2018 there were over 62 severe Winter Storm events significantly impacting Tioga County; costing taxpayers over \$595,000 in property damage; and

WHEREAS: Winter Storms have been identified as the fourth leading threat of natural disasters facing our community (according to the 2017 CEPA); and

WHEREAS: Tioga County Public Health encourages citizens to be situationally aware of anticipated winter weather by tuning into their preferred source for weather information; therefore

THE TIOGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE, County of Tioga, does hereby proclaim the month of January 2020 as:

WINTER SAFETY MONTH IN TIOGA COUNTY

and urges all residents of our County to make preparations for winter storm situations, recognize the severity of extreme cold, check on their neighbors, and take caution while driving in winter weather so that we can protect the health and safety of our citizens.

Dated: January 14, 2020

MARTHA SAUERBREY, CHAIR TIOGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE