

Supporting The Placement Of Video Lottery Terminals At The Hudson Valley Resort And The Pine Grove Ranch In The Town of Rochester

Referred to: The Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning and Transit Committee (Chairman Briggs and Legislators Allen, Archer, Bartels, Litts, Maio, and Maloney)

Legislators Richard Parete and Kenneth Ronk offer the following:

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is committed to encouraging economic growth and promoting tourism in Ulster County; and

WHEREAS, New York State has recognized that legalized gaming can be an economic engine and attract tourists to those areas where it is offered; and

WHEREAS, a five-member Resort Gaming Facility Location Board was appointed by the New York State Gaming Commission to evaluate casino gaming facility applications and ultimately award the five gaming licenses in New York State; and

WHEREAS, three licenses were awarded in New York State; and

WHEREAS, by the passage of Resolution No. 154 on June 19, 2012 and Resolution No. 44 passed on April 14, 2014 the Ulster County Legislature expressed its unanimous support for the selection of the former Nevele Grande Hotel and Country Club in the Town of Wawarsing as a recipient of a gaming facility license; and

WHEREAS, on December 17, 2014 the Resort Gaming Facility Location Board announced that the former Nevele Grande Hotel and Country Club would not be a recipient of a gaming facility license; and

WHEREAS, New York State is considering different locations to place Video Lottery Terminals throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, two resorts, the Hudson Valley Resort and the Pine Grove Ranch, located in the Town of Rochester, desire having Video Lottery Terminals placed at their locations; and

WHEREAS, the siting of Video Lottery Terminals at these two locations will bring a measure of the economic benefit expected by the Nevele Resort and help existing destination resorts stay competitive with the introduction of Las Vegas style casinos being sited nearby; and

Resolution No. 113 March 17, 2015

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WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Rochester supports the placement of Video Lottery Terminals at the Hudson Valley Resort and the Pine Grove Ranch and has unanimously adopted Resolution #56-2013 on March 14, 2013 in furtherance thereof; and

WHEREAS, the placement of Video Lottery Terminals at these two resorts will provide an opportunity for economic growth and increased tourism in the Town of Rochester and Ulster County as a whole; and

WHEREAS, New York State Assemblymember Kevin Cahill has introduced Assembly Bill A02196 to permit Ulster County to allow two destination resorts to install Video Lottery Terminals, subject to a local resolution; and

WHEREAS, if New York State agrees to license Video Lottery Terminals at resorts in Ulster County, an operating agreement between Ulster County and the resort properties will be required with Ulster County receiving a minimum 10% share of the resorts' net revenue, minus the New York State share; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature hereby supports the placement of Video Lottery Terminals at the Hudson Valley Resort and the Pine Grove Ranch in the Town of Rochester; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature supports Assembly Bill A02196 introduced by Assemblymember Kevin Cahill and encourages a companion bill be introduced in the New York State Senate; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature requests that the New York State Division of the Lottery place Video Lottery Terminals at the Hudson Valley Resort and the Pine Grove Ranch in the Town of Rochester; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos, New York State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, New York State Senator James L. Seward, and Assemblyman Kevin A. Cahill, the Town of Rochester Town Board, and the New York State Division of the Lottery,

and move its adoption.

