

Restricting Chamber Of Commerce Memberships Paid For With Ulster County Funds

Referred to: The Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning and Transit Committee (Chairman James Maloney and Legislators Archer, Delaune, Litts, Maio, Rodriguez, and Woltman), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gerentine and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Lopez, James Maloney, Joseph Maloney, and Petit)

Legislator Joseph Maloney offers the following:

WHEREAS, chamber of commerce organizations are private networking institutions made up of private businesses that formulate local societies that lobby and network for the business community; and

WHEREAS, one can justify only Economic Development and Tourism using taxpayer funds for membership fees; and

WHEREAS, there is little value in any other department within Ulster County government purchasing chamber of commerce memberships with taxpayer funds; and

WHEREAS, memberships to various chamber of commerce organizations have been historically paid for by various County departments using County funds; and

WHEREAS, limiting memberships to these organizations is in the best interest of the Ulster County taxpayers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, effective January 1, 2019, memberships to any chamber of commerce organizations paid for with Ulster County funds shall be prohibited, with the exception of the Department of Tourism and the Office of Economic Development, where memberships to such organizations shall be allowable within budget appropriations; and be it further

RESOLVED, the nothing shall preclude an Ulster County Elected Official from paying membership fees to a Chamber of Commerce organization with his or her personal funds,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

Resolution No. 77 March 20, 2018

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Defeated in Committee: Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning and
Transit on March 6, 2018

Petition to Discharge not executed.

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on _____.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$1,000.00- APPROXIMATE YEARLY SAVINGS IN COUNTY DOLLARS