



ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATIVE NEWS

ULSTER COUNTY NEWS INFORMATION

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Ulster County Legislature Bans the Inhumane Use of Glue Traps for Rodent Control in County Buildings

(Kingston, NY) – In its June Session the Ulster County Legislature adopted a pest management contract banning the use of lethal glue traps for use in rodent control on County property.

“These traps are inhumane and cruel, leaving mice and birds to struggle for hours or even days in excruciating pain until they succumb or rescued. By banning glue boards for pest control in County buildings, we are elevating a message to our constituents that they should consider more humane alternatives in their home and workplace,” **said Legislator Eric Stewart**, who led the effort to amend the contract.

In addition to the gruesome manner of eliminating pests, glue traps represent a significant vector for zoonotic diseases to spread as animals caught in the traps continue to urinate, defecate and bleed as they attempt to free themselves. Diseases found on mice including hantavirus and leptospirosis pose significant risk to human health both by the contractor checking on the traps as well as County Employees who may see a trap and dispose of it themselves.

“In restricting the use of these boards, we are creating a healthier environment for our county employees and constituents seeking government services. We look forward to seeing these traps removed from our public spaces and a more humane system implemented,” **said Legislator Joe Donaldson**, who spoke in favor of the amendment in the June Public Works & Capital Projects Committee.

Presently, glue traps are banned in several countries including England, Ireland and their use has been prohibited in many hospitals and universities including SUNY New Paltz and SUNY Albany.

Discussion of the amendment to the policy in the Public Works & Capital Projects Committee can be found [here](#). All Legislative Standing Committees are livestreamed, please subscribe to the Legislature’s YouTube Channel, [@UlsterCountyLegislature](#).

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