



ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATIVE NEWS

ULSTER COUNTY NEWS INFORMATION
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY LEGISLAUTRE
244 FAIR STREET, 6TH FLOOR
KINGSTON, NY 12401

MEDIA CONTACT INFORMATION
• PHONE 845-340-3900
* EMAIL LegislativeNews@co.ulster.ny.us
• FAX 845-340-3651

Legislature.UlsterCountyNY.gov

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Ulster County Legislature Establishes Subcommittee on Housing

(Kingston, NY) – The Ulster County Legislature’s Health, Human Services & Housing Committee has voted to establish a Subcommittee on Housing to further compile and take a deeper dive examining housing policies for presentation to the Legislature.

The Subcommittee on Housing will be the central body for receiving updates on the status of County housing initiatives including the Housing Action Fund, Affordable Rental Upgrade Program, Eviction Defense Project, Rental Assistance Program, and other programs that may begin following its creation.

Additionally the Housing Subcommittee may examine existing policies for their efficacy, as well as propose new policies, including but not limited to:

- Examining compliance of the Ulster County Respite House Policy
- Considering the need for a policy on unreasonable rent increases
- Measuring the success of existing programs and providing recommendations for expansion or redirection

"The Ulster County Legislature has set major policies in motion to tackle the housing crisis and having one centralized place for the implementation of these policies to be discussed, and for new policies to be explored is critical as we tie together the details of this very important work," **said Majority Leader Abe Uchitelle (District 5 – City of Kingston), Chair of Health, Human Services & Housing Committee.**

"As Chair of the Ulster County Legislature, I am committed to addressing the critical issue of affordable housing. Through the establishment of our new Housing Subcommittee, we are taking proactive steps to ensure that all residents have access to safe, affordable housing options. Together, we will work tirelessly to implement innovative solutions and create policies that make a tangible difference in the lives of our community members," **said Chair Peter Criswell (District 7 – City of Kingston).**

Legislator Jeff Collins (District 23 – Woodstock & Hurley) has been selected to Chair the Subcommittee, alongside Legislators Criag Lopez (District 14 – Shawangunk & Wawarsing) Greg McCollough (District 6 – City of Kingston).

"It is an honor to be chosen to serve as the Chair of the new Housing Subcommittee. Housing has become one of the most critical issues the county is facing. Our subcommittee will focus on the continuum of housing concerns from emergency housing for the unhoused through more permanent housing for those struggling to afford a place to live. We believe that safe, stable housing is a basic human right, and our subcommittee will work to ensure this right," **said Legislator Collins, Chair of the Subcommittee on Housing.**

The first meeting of the Subcommittee on Housing is tentatively scheduled for Thursday April 4 in the KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building.

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