

In Support Of New York State Assembly Bill No. A10140 And New York State Senate Bill No. S6276 Authorizing The Use Of Surplus Funds From The Greater Catskills Flood Remediation Program By Ulster County

Legislator Terry Bernardo and Multi-Sponsors: The Health and Human Services Committee (Chairman Frey and Legislators Harris, Petit, Ronk, Briggs, Robert Parete and Stoeckeler), The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairman Hayes and Legislators Belfiglio, Ronk, Sweeney, Briggs, Hochberg and Rodriguez) and Legislators Sheeley and Zimet offer the following:

WHEREAS, it is well documented that New York City's aqueduct system is leaking, and

WHEREAS, it is documented that leakage is occurring in the aqueduct system of the City of New York in the Town of Wawarsing, and

WHEREAS, dozens of area families in the Town of Wawarsing are affected by this leakage and on a near constant basis have their lives and/or property threatened, and

WHEREAS, Wawarsing area residents have met with County Executive Michael Hein (then County Administrator), State Senator John Bonacic, Assemblyman Kevin Cahill, and representatives of Congressman Maurice Hinchey on this ongoing crisis, and

WHEREAS, Senator John Bonacic has introduced NYS Senate Bill No. 6276 and Assemblyman Cahill has introduced NYS Assembly Bill No. 10140, to authorize use of surplus funds from the greater Catskills flood remediation program by Ulster County, and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the bill is to authorize the purchase of homes near the New York City aqueducts which are susceptible to flooding or water infiltration near the leaking New York City owned aqueduct in Ulster County near the Rondout Reservoir, and

WHEREAS, the legislation authorizes the use of remaining funds from the Greater Catskills Flood Remediation program (of which there are currently approximately \$4 million in unused funds) to purchase homes within two miles of the New York City Aqueducts in the County of Ulster; the homes must be subject to water seepage and be under \$250,000.00, in fair market value, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas Stellato, Chairman of the Ulster County Board of Health has contacted Senator Bonacic to urge the adoption of this legislation, and

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WHEREAS, the proposed legislation would provide essential and important relief to the people of Ulster County, now, therefore, and

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature support NYS Senate Bill No. 6276 and NYS Assembly Bill No. 10140 and urge that the Governor of the State of New York sign the bill into law, and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature urges the New York State Legislature to provide additional flood control funds to expand upon the \$15 million secured in 2008 to continue the important function of flood mitigation, and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature urges New York State to pursue action against New York City for the responsibility in causing this problem, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor David Paterson, Senate Majority Leader Pedro Espada Jr., Senate Minority Leader Dean G. Skelos, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Majority Leader Ron Canestrari, Assembly Minority Leader Brian M. Kolb, New York State Senators John J. Bonacic and William J. Larkin, Jr., New York State Assemblymen Kevin A. Cahill, Clifford W. Crouch, Peter Lopez and Frank K. Skartados and the New York State Association of Counties,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED AS AMENDED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 31 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislators Frey and Wadnola)

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Legislator Lomita motioned, seconded by Legislator Robert Parete, to make a friendly amendment adding the following: **“RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature urges New York State to pursue action against New York City for the responsibility in causing this problem, and be it further”** prior to the last “RESOLVED,” as indicated by bold font in the body of the resolution.

MOTION ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 31 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislators Frey and Wadnola)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

0403

STATE OF NEW YORK
ss:
COUNTY OF ULSTER

This is to certify that I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution now on file in the office of said clerk, and which was adopted by said Legislature on the 20th day of April, 2010, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said resolution and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 21st Day of April in the year Two Thousand and Ten.

/s/ Karen L. Binder
Karen L. Binder, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature