

Commencing The Process to Extend The Additional Sales Tax Rate Of One Percent As Previously Authorized By Chapter 200 Of The Laws Of 2002 For An Additional Period Of At Least Twenty-Four Months

The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Lomita and Legislators Bartels, Berardi, Gregorius, Provenzano, Zimet, Cummings, Gerentine and Noonan) offers the following:

WHEREAS, the County's burden of mandated costs for Medicaid, Handicapped Children's Services, Public Assistance, and in other areas, experienced in recent years will continue into the foreseeable future, and

WHEREAS, strict austerity measures undertaken in operations of the county government have substantially mitigated but not eliminated the financial burden of mandates on Ulster County, and

WHEREAS, the financial constraints of the past several years have required some tax increases for County purposes though it has long been and continues to be the policy of this government, to minimize such increases, and

WHEREAS, though no tax increase is desirable, unlike the property tax, the sales tax is linked to people's behavior as consumers and is paid in part by persons who are not County residents or property owners, and

WHEREAS, the additional sales tax rate of one percent as authorized by Chapter 200 of the Laws of 2002 and amended in 2003 and 2005 will expire on November 30, 2007 and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature wishes to ease the burden on the County property taxpayer by continuing the additional sales tax rate of one percent, as authorized by Chapter 200 of the Laws of 2002 as amended in 2003 and 2005 for at least the twenty-four month period commencing with December 1, 2007.

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature is hereby authorized to request the New York State Legislature to commence the process of extending the Ulster County additional sales tax rate of one percent, as authorized by Chapter 200 of the Laws of 2002 as amended in 2003 and 2005, for at least the twenty-four month period commencing with December 1, 2007, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that these intentions be transmitted to Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno, New York State Senators John J. Bonacic and William J. Larkin, Jr., Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, New York State Assemblymen Kevin A. Cahill, Clifford W. Crouch, Thomas Kirwan and Peter Lopez,

Resolution No. 13 January 3, 2007

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and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 29 NOES: 3
(NOES: Legislators Cummings, Dart and Gerentine)
(Absent: Legislator Felicello)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$44,968,573.00 – 1% COUNTY SALES TAX FOR 24 MONTHS

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