

**Supporting New York State Assembly Bill No. A03089 And New York State Senate Bill No. S1333A Which Proposed A State Income Tax Incentive And Congressional Bill HR 385 (2005) Which Proposed A Federal Income Tax Incentive For The Volunteer Fire And EMS Community In Ulster County**

The Criminal Justice and Safety Committee (Chairman Dart and Legislators Distel, Gregorius, R.A. Parete, Zimet, Aiello and Every) and Legislator Kraft offer the following:

WHEREAS, members of volunteer fire and emergency services provide invaluable services to the people of Ulster County, and

WHEREAS, these volunteers endure long hours of focused training, coupled with the additional demands for routine proficiency drills, certification, fund raising activities and emergency response, and

WHEREAS, these demands are not a very attractive calling card to prospective members, and

WHEREAS, in the current economy, rising property values coupled with an ever increasing tax burden, have discouraged or even prohibited potential volunteers from being Real Property owners and Property Tax credits will not benefit these individuals, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature has recognized that tax incentives are indeed necessary to preserve the “Volunteer Emergency Services” in Ulster County, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Fire Advisory Board has considered various options to attract and hold new volunteers for Ulster County’s Emergency Services including possible reductions to the Property Tax and/or Income Tax credits, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Fire Advisory Board favors an State Income Tax Reduction Incentive.

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature supports New York State Assembly Bill No. A03089, New York State Senate Bill No. S1333A Congressional Bill HR 385 (2005) to provide a statewide Income Tax Reduction Initiative, in order to maintain the existing ranks of the Volunteer and EMS Community and to encourage new members to join, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature encourages the New York State Assembly and the New York State Senate to introduce and adopt a State Income Tax Reduction Incentive during their current session, and

Resolution No. 140 April 11, 2006

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FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to President George W. Bush, Governor George E. Pataki, Comptroller Alan Hevesi, United States Senators Hillary Rodham Clinton and Charles Schumer, United States Congressman Maurice Hinchey, Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno, Senate Minority Leader David A. Paterson, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Majority Leader Paul A. Tokasz, Assembly Minority Leader Charles Nesbitt, New York State Senators John J. Bonacic and William J. Larkin, Jr., New York State Assemblymen Kevin Cahill, Clifford Crouch, Daniel Hooker and Thomas Kirwan, the National Association of Counties and the New York State Association of Counties,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 31 NOES: 0  
(Absent: Legislators Aiello and Sheeley)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:  
NONE

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