

Supporting New York State Assembly Bill No. A06517, Removing Ulster From The Counties The Governor Is Authorized To Enter Into Tribal Compacts With For Situs Of Certain Types Of Gaming Facilities

The Environmental Committee (Chairman Shapiro and Legislators Bartels, Distel, R.A. Parete, Rodriguez, Fabiano and McAfee) offers the following:

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature has debated, at length and engaged in legislation relating to the potential location of certain types of gaming facilities, or casinos, in Ulster County, and

WHEREAS, the potential location of gaming or casino facilities has raised great concern among members of the public as well as members of the Ulster County Legislature, and

WHEREAS, several towns and villages in Ulster County including Gardiner, Hardenburgh, Marbletown, New Paltz, Plattekill, Saugerties, Shandaken and Woodstock have all adopted resolutions stating their opposition to casino gambling within the County, and

WHEREAS, Governor Eliot Spitzer has issued his concurrence with regard to gaming in nearby Sullivan County by the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe and also signed the Tribal-State Compact Amendment, authorizing gaming in Sullivan County and, specifically, at the Monticello site where the Tribe intends to build a Class III casino, and

WHEREAS, if the recently announced agreement to construct a casino in Sullivan County is allowed to move forward, the Governor would still have the authority to negotiate up to two more casinos in the Catskills, and

WHEREAS, New York State law does not require the Governor to seek the approval of individual counties prior to entering into an agreement, making passage of Assembly Bill No. A06517 necessary to assure the residents of Ulster County that a casino will not be approved under current state law.

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature supports removing Ulster County from the counties that the Governor is authorized to enter into tribal compacts with for locating certain types of gaming facilities, and requests the swift passage of New York State Assembly Bill No. A06517, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature is hereby directed to forward copies of this resolution to Governor Eliot Spitzer, New York State Comptroller's Office, Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno, Senate Minority Leader Malcolm Smith, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly

Resolution No. 141 April 11, 2007

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Majority Leader Ron Canestrari, Assembly Minority Leader James N. Tedisco, 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 Thomas Kirwan, and the New York State Association of Counties,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

0435

REFERRED BACK TO COMMITTEE