

Amending The Rules Of Order Of The Ulster County Legislature To Establish A Policy Describing The Routing Process Of A Proposed Local Law Before Adoption By The Ulster County Legislature

The Laws and Rules Committee (Chairman Bischoff and Legislators Cahill, Decker, R.S. Parete, Rodriguez, Shapiro, Cummings, Maloney and Roberts) offers the following:

WHEREAS, the purpose of this resolution amend the Rules of Order of the Ulster County Legislature to establish a policy describing the routing process of a proposed local law before it is adopted by the Ulster County Legislature, and

WHEREAS, the reason this policy is necessary is to detail the new role of the Laws and Rules Committee. According to the description of the 2009 Legislature committees, the Laws and Rules Committee is responsible for all local laws. The committee has discussed the best ways to implement an orderly procedure that would ensure a smooth flow of a proposed law through the Legislature and provide added value to the process, and

WHEREAS, the Laws and Rules Committee has met and reviewed said request with a majority of the members voting approval, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Rules of the Ulster County Legislature be amended to include as part of RULE 7. RULES FOR COMMITTEES. Section E, add subsection "Routing Process Of A Proposed Local Law Before Adoption By The Ulster County Legislature," as follows:

1. Committee **or Legislator** originates or modifies local law. Committee approval of a local law automatically refers the law to Laws & Rules.

2. Laws & Rules reviews the law for completeness and technical flaws. At this point Laws & Rules does not make any recommendations on the advantages/disadvantages of a proposed law. If the proposed law needs modifications it is sent back to the originating committee with a recommendation for changes. If minor changes are required, Laws and Rules will make the proposed changes in consultation with the originating committee chair or main sponsor of the proposed law. Laws & Rules does not have the authority to block a proposed law before a public hearing. When the proposed law is satisfactory, Laws & Rules approves the proposed law and generates a resolution for consideration by the full Legislature setting a time and date for a public hearing.

3. Full Legislature votes **on** public hearing.

4. Public Hearing

Resolution No. 195 June 10, 2009

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5. Laws & Rules Committee considers the efficacy of proposed law considering the input from the public at the hearing. Laws & Rules may approve the proposed law for consideration by the full Legislature at a subsequent Legislature Session or may send the law back to the originating committee for further changes or reconsideration. Note that proposed changes may or may not be substantive. Substantive changes would require another public hearing.

6. Originating committee approves the proposed law for consideration by the full Legislature at a subsequent Legislature session.

7. Legislature votes for proposed law, sending the law to County Executive as per Charter,

and moves its adoption.

FIRST READING: JUNE 10, 2009

SECOND READING: JULY 8, 2009

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

NONE

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