### Resolution No. 203 June 10, 2009

### **Resolution To Request Regulation Of Credit Card Late Fees**

Chairman David B. Donaldson offers the following:

WHEREAS, a new bill has been introduced in Congress (HR 627) containing the most far-reaching changes to the credit card industry in decades, and

WHEREAS, the new credit card law will mean limited interest rate hikes, no more universal default, more time to pay monthly bills, clearer due dates and times, highest interest rate balances paid first, limits on over-limit fees, no more double-cycle billing, subprime credit cards for people with bad credit, minimum payments consequences disclosed resulting in the removal of the credit card industry's most profitable and punitive practices, and

WHEREAS, in the past, the Banking Industry has recently relied more heavily on the use of fees to supplement revenue, and

WHEREAS, late charges on credit card payments have been one such fee, and

WHEREAS, the late charges can be as much as thirty five dollars on a payment received one day late, and

WHEREAS, the credit card late fees can amount to as much as a three hundred fifty percent increase in the overall balance for being late one day, and

WHEREAS, the states and federal governments have regulated more reasonable amounts that can be accessed as late charges on mortgages and other bank loans, and

WHEREAS, late charges on credit card payments are being addressed **minimally** by the proposed bill.

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature calls on their state and federal representatives to regulate the amount any company issuing credit cards can legally charge as a late fee, and, be it further

RESOLVED, that such regulation should be in compliance with late charges levied in relationship to mortgages and other loans, and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to President Barack Obama, Governor David Paterson, United States Senators Kirsten Gillibrand and Charles Schumer, United States Congressman Maurice Hinchey, Senate Majority Leader Malcolm Smith, Senate Minority Leader Dean G. Skelos, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Majority Leader Ron Canestrari, Assembly Minority Leader Brian M. Kolb, New

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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, the National Association of Counties and the New York State Association of Counties,

and moves its adoption.

#### ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 28 NOES: 0 (Absent: Legislators Aiello, Lomita, R.A. Parete,

Roberti and Sheeley)

FINANCIAL IMPACT: NONE

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