

Establishing The Policy That Transfers To The Criminal Order Charges Budget Shall Be Made From The County Contingency Account – Mental Health

The Mental Health / Public Health / Residential Services Committee (Chairmen Busick and Roberti and Legislators Alfonso, McAfee, Provenzano, R.S. Parete and Stoeckeler) offers the following:

WHEREAS, counties are required to pay 50% of the cost of inpatient psychiatric hospitalizations for individuals who are ordered by a court to undergo a period of examination in relation to a criminal charge, and

WHEREAS, the County and the Mental Health Department have no control over these orders and the related expenses, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Comptroller's Office requires that the budget for Criminal Order Charges reside in the budget of County Mental Health Departments, and

WHEREAS, when actual expenses exceed appropriations, the Ulster County Mental Health Department has been forced to transfer appropriations from other existing programs to cover these expenses, and

WHEREAS, such transfers force the department to reduce the scope of those other services, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Mental Health Department is requesting that the Ulster County Legislature establish a policy of making such transfers from the County Contingency Fund, and

WHEREAS, the Mental Health/Public Health/Residential Services Committee has met and reviewed said request with a majority of the members voting approval, and

WHEREAS, the Ways and Means Committee has met and reviewed said request with a majority of the members voting approval.

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature hereby adopts a policy that transfers to cover shortfalls in the Criminal Order Charge Budget shall be made from the County Contingency Fund and not from any of the accounts within the budget of the Ulster County Mental Health Department,

Resolution No. 260 September 8, 2005

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and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

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