

**Supporting New York State Assembly Bill No. A08069 And Similar New York State Senate Bill No. S01265 – Amending The Education Law And The Real Property Tax Law And The Tax Law, In Relation To Making Provisions For The State Abolishing Certain School Taxes, Providing For Alternative Taxes And State Distribution To School Districts, And Repealing Certain Provisions Of The Real Property Tax Law And The Tax Law Relating To Certain Taxes**

Legislator Bartels, Berardi, Bischoff, Cahill, Dart, Distel, Donaldson, Gregorius, Kraft, Liepmann, Lomita, Loughran, R.A. Parete, R.S. Parete, Provenzano, Rodriguez, Shapiro, Sheeley, Stoeckeler, Terpening and Zimet offer the following:

WHEREAS, public education costs continue to increase in Ulster County and New York State, creating a regressive and real property tax burden on local taxpayers, and

WHEREAS, the real property tax in Ulster County bears little relationship to one's ability to pay, penalizes the elderly, the retired, the unemployed, the widowed and the person who chooses to invest in his/her own home, and

WHEREAS, transferring the taxes to the State will ensure equitable education for all children of the State regardless of wealth within a school district because the "BASIC" (BASIC shall be defined in terms of equal services to all pupils regardless of differences in cost in different districts for those services) Budget will provide for whatever general services are necessary to ensure a quality education and all special services required by needy districts, and

WHEREAS, present levels of local control will be retained because "BASIC" Budget will be prepared by local school boards, with State approval required only for the "BASIC" Budget, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature agrees with permitting the financing of public schools in New York State by transferring the taxes to the State; therefore eliminating the inequitable and regressive real estate tax in Ulster County and the State of New York.

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature supports New York State Assembly Bill No. A08069 and similar New York State Senate Bill No. S01265 - **Amending The Education Law And The Real Property Tax Law And The Tax Law, In Relation To Making Provisions For The State Abolishing Certain School Taxes, Providing For Alternative Taxes And State Distribution To School Districts, And Repealing Certain Provisions Of The Real Property Tax Law And The Tax Law Relating To Certain Taxes, and**

Resolution No. 288 August 9, 2006

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School Districts, And Repealing Certain Provisions Of The Real  
Property Tax Law And The Tax Law Relating To Certain Taxes**

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor George E. Pataki, Comptroller Alan Hevesi, Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno, Senate Minority Leader David A. Paterson, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Majority Leader Paul A. Tokasz, 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, Daniel L. Hooker and Thomas Kirwan, and the New York State Association of Counties,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 30 NOES: 0  
(Absent: Legislator Felicello)  
(Legislator Gerentine left at 9:45 PM)  
(Legislator Loughran left at 9:45 PM)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:  
NONE

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