

Resolution No. 289 December 4, 2012

Authorizing Ulster County To Pay For The Cost of The Safety Net Program Thereby Relieving The Various Municipalities Of Responsibility For Payment

Referred to: The Social Services Committee (Chairman Wawro and Legislators Lopez, Ronk, Parete and Rodriguez) and the Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gerentine and Legislators Harris, Maio, Maloney, Gregorius, Provenzano and Rodriguez)

Chairman of the Social Services Committee, Mary Wawro, and Deputy Chairman Hector S. Rodriguez offer the following:

WHEREAS, this resolution has been submitted by the County Executive; and

WHEREAS, the Safety Net Program is a valuable resource for individuals in need within Ulster County; and

WHEREAS, historically, the local share of the cost of this State Program was paid by the local municipalities; and

WHEREAS, each municipality's cost was determined by the number of its residents receiving assistance under the Program; and

WHEREAS, the increased costs associated with the Program have proved to be a substantial expense and burden on the local municipalities; and

WHEREAS, a more equitable formula to cover the cost of this County-wide Program, is to assess it across the entire County instead of proportioning it amongst the municipalities according to participation; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to New York State Social Services Law section 72, a County Legislature may, by resolution adopted by a majority vote, direct that the cost of all or any part of the assistance and care for which the towns and cities are made responsible under the provisions of subdivisions one and two of section sixty-nine, shall be a charge on the county social services district and administered under the direction of the county commissioner; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive has proposed that the County of Ulster assume the cost of the Safety Net Program over a three year period, whereby 33% would be a County charge for the calendar year 2013, 66% would be a County charge for the calendar year 2014, and the total cost would be a County charge for the calendar year 2015; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, that for the calendar year 2013, 33% of the local share of the Safety Net Program shall be borne by Ulster County and not billed to its municipalities; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that any outstanding charges yet to be paid to the County by any municipality for costs associated with the Safety Net Program shall continue to be due and owing, and shall be paid by the respective municipality; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature is hereby authorized and directed to send a certified copy of this resolution to each town clerk and to the mayor and clerk of the City of Kingston within ten days after the adoption of this resolution; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Commissioner of Social Services and the Commissioner of Finance are hereby authorized to take any all steps necessary to implement this resolution;

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 21 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislator Maio)
(Legislator Roberts left at 7:16 PM)

Passed Committee: Social Services on November 8, 2012

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on December 4, 2012

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$1,671,700.00 – DECREASE 2013 COUNTY REVENUE (33% OF LOCAL SHARE OF SAFETY NET PROGRAM)

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STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

This is to certify that I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution now on file in the office of said clerk, and which was adopted by said Legislature on the 4th day of December, 2012, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said resolution and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 5th Day of December in the year Two Thousand and Twelve.

|s| Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Submitted to the County Executive this
5th Day of December, 2012.

Approved by the County Executive this
_____ Day of December, 2012.

|s| Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Michael P. Hein, County Executive