

Requesting New York State To Maintain Funding Streams For Youth Bureau And Further Elimination Of Competitive Bid Funding Through A Per Capita Formula

Legislator Walter G. Frey, Jr., and Co-Sponsors: The Legislative Programs, Education and Community Services Committee (Chairman Harris and Legislators Belfiglio, Hayes, Terrizzi, Donaldson, Gregorius and Madsen) offer the following:

WHEREAS, Governor Cuomo has submitted his proposed 2011-2012 Executive Budget recommending the development of a Primary Prevention Incentive Program (PPIP), and

WHEREAS, this proposal actually slashes the current allocation of funding for Youth Development and Delinquency Prevention (YDDP), Special Delinquency Prevention Program (SSPP), and Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA), by 50%, and

WHEREAS, this proposal eliminates these funding streams and offers the distribution of funds on a competitive basis to counties, resulting in the elimination of funding to many rural counties, thereby promoting inequities in prevention and positive youth development services across New York State, and

WHEREAS, the proposed competitive bidding process will also result in a loss of local planning and control, and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned proposal will dismantle the current youth bureau system, structure and funding streams, and will be especially detrimental to all municipal youth bureaus, and

WHEREAS, current youth development and prevention services are provided through a fair and equitable formula-driven allocation through the New York State Office of Children and Family Services, and

WHEREAS, the current funding through mechanism ensures appropriate local monitoring, evaluation and accountability, and

WHEREAS, youth development, prevention and intervention are essential for critical services to children and youth, and

WHEREAS, if adopted, this portion of the Executive Budget would result in an undetermined loss of youth services revenue dollars for Ulster County, and

WHEREAS, if adopted, New York State will be abandoning its long-time national leadership and partnership in youth prevention, intervention and development services, as articulated in Article 19-A of the Executive Law, and

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WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature believes that providing services and programs for children and youth is an investment, not only in delinquency prevention, but also in the development of all our young people, in all ways thus enriching our society and nation as a whole, and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Programs, Education and Community Services Committee has met and reviewed said request with a majority of the members voting approval, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature hereby requests Governor Cuomo and the New York State Legislature maintain the current youth bureau funding streams, albeit with proportionate reductions, and eliminate the concept of competitive bid funding, and be it further

RESOLVED, that Governor Cuomo and the New York State Legislature be directed to uphold Article 19-A of the Executive Law and to maintain the current youth bureau system and structure which is in the best interest of the 48,862 children and youth of Ulster County and of the children and youth of New York State as a whole, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Senate Majority Leader Dean G. Skelos, Senate Minority Leader John L. Sampson, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Majority Leader Ron Canestrari, Assembly Minority Leader Brian M. Kolb, New York State Senators John J. Bonacic and William J. Larkin, Jr., New York State Assemblymen Kevin A. Cahill, Clifford W. Crouch, Peter Lopez and Thomas Kirwan and the New York State Association of Counties,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 31 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislators Felicello and Shapiro)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
LOSS OF YOUTH BUREAU REVENUE TO COUNTY
0312

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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 15th day of March, 2011, 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 18th Day of March in the year Two Thousand and Eleven.

/s/ Karen L. Binder
Karen L. Binder, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature