

## ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATIVE NEWS

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Chairman, Ulster County Legislature

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## ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN TERRY BERNARDO SIGNS AGREEMENT ON SHARED TOURISM SERVICES

Ulster County Legislature Chairman Terry Bernardo has signed the agreement allowing the County and City to share tourism services.

"Dedicating taxpayer dollars directly to tourism promotion instead of excess staff is a win for the County and the City," Bernardo said, adding, "This type of cooperation can be replicated elsewhere so we have more efficient and meaningful inter-municipal cooperation."

Under the agreement, the City will eliminate its tourism department and pay the County \$30,000 a year to promote Kingston as a tourism destination. In addition, the City will permit the Ulster County Department of Tourism to utilize office space at the City's Heritage Area Visitor's Center.

Bernardo also complimented Ulster County Executive Michael Hein for his work on the initiative. "The County Executive proposed a positive idea that we believe will work here. The Legislature was pleased to approve it. We look forward to examining other shared services opportunities such as working to improve the level of participation in the shared services highway program," she said.

Prior to serving as Chairman of the Legislature, Bernardo worked extensively in the tourism and hospitality area. "Every dollar invested in actual tourism promotion returns that investment many times over to an area. The Legislature was pleased to approve this agreement which will bring in dollars and makes good sense," Bernardo concluded.

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