

Opposing The Closure Of The Social Security Office Located At 809 Grant Avenue in Lake Katrine, NY

Referred to: The Public Health and Social Services Committee (Legislators Allen, Belfiglio, Litts, Lopez, and Provenzano)

Legislator Jeanette Provenzano and Legislators Allen, Archer, Bartels, Belfiglio, Fabiano, Gerentine, Greene, Gregorius, Litts, Lopez, Loughran, Maio, Maloney, Roberts, Rodriguez, Ronk, Wawro and Wishnick offer the following:

WHEREAS, the Social Security Administration was established to support disabled adults and children who have limited income and resources, as well as people over 65 who meet certain financial limits; and

WHEREAS, the Social Security Administration recently announced they plan to close the office at 809 Grant Ave. in Lake Katrine, NY on March 14, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Social Security Office in Lake Katrine, NY is the only Social Security Office in Ulster County; and

WHEREAS, the Social Security Office in Lake Katrine, NY employees a staff of seven (7) who work tirelessly to assist constituents from several counties in this the region; and

WHEREAS, closing the Lake Katrine, NY office would create a gap of over 50 miles between Social Security Administration offices servicing a population of individuals with limited resources; and

WHEREAS, there is limited public transportation available to aid these individuals to travel to other Social Security Administration offices; and

WHEREAS, there is limited internet access to many in the region serviced by the Lake Katrine, NY office making it difficult for applicants to perform any of their Social Security business online; and

WHEREAS, the Social Security Administration did not approach local government officials to discuss alternatives to closing the Lake Katrine office and eliminating services available in Ulster County before taking making this drastic decision; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature opposes the closing of the Social Security Administration Office in Lake Katrine, NY, and urges the Social Security Administration to postpone this closing and accept the offer proposed by the Ulster County Executive to move into the space at the Business Resource Center which would result in substantial savings; and be it further

