

**Requesting The Creation Of A Dedicated Casino Impact Fund For The Hudson Valley By The State Of New York**

Legislators Aiello, Alfonso, Busick, Cummings, DePew, Every, Felicello, Gerentine, Harris, Hathaway, Maloney, McAfee, Meyer, Noonan, Roberti, Stock, Tipp, Bartels, Berardi, Dart, Donaldson, Feldmann, Hyatt, Kraft, Lomita, Loughran, R.A. Parete, Provenzano, Rodriguez, Stoeckeler and Zimet offer the following:

WHEREAS, the State of New York has entered into agreement with various Native American Tribes to settle previous land claims, and

WHEREAS, the Governor has urged the development of Casinos in the Hudson Valley, and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Legislature on February 10, 2005, approved the potential for five casinos including the Monticello area, and

WHEREAS, there have been concerns raised about the impacts of casinos on Ulster County, and

WHEREAS, the State of New York is currently the custodian of the New York State Thruway (I-87) and several roads leading from the Thruway to the proposed casinos in Sullivan County, including Route 299, Route 44-55, Route 52 and Route 209, and

WHEREAS, Ulster County already has traffic and development pressures in these corridors, and

WHEREAS, the traffic congestion that currently exists off the New York State Thruway and ancillary roadways thereto, and the inherent increase in traffic on these roadways due to the casinos in Sullivan County, will require mitigation, and

WHEREAS, as a result of increased traffic flow, there will now be a higher demand on Ulster County and its local emergency responders to handle emergency situations, and

WHEREAS, Ulster County continues to study air quality issues and increased air pollution and these issues have a negative impact on our residents, and

WHEREAS, the Orange County Legislature passed Resolution 194 of 2004 calling on New York State to create a dedicated impact fund from the State's share of the negotiated settlement, and

**Resolution No. 116 March 10, 2005**

**Requesting The Creation Of A Dedicated Casino Impact Fund For The Hudson Valley By The State Of New York**

WHEREAS, Sullivan County stands to receive \$75 million dollars for mitigation and New York State currently receives seventy percent (70%) of all revenues from video lottery terminals, and

WHEREAS, the creation of a dedicated impact fund would not interfere with the direct payment to Sullivan County and would commit the State of New York to reinvest its share of casino profits to the future planning of the Hudson Valley.

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature joins the Orange County Legislature in supporting the creation of a dedicated Casino Impact Fund to be established and administered by the State of New York and that such Fund be financed by casino profit revenues which the State would otherwise direct to its general fund, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, the State of New York shall utilize the monies set aside from the dedicated Casino Impact Fund for any and all costs associated with upgrades and improvements to Interstate 87 (New York State Thruway) and ancillary roadways thereto in Ulster County to mitigate traffic congestion, emergency responses on Interstate 87, studying and addressing increased air pollution and other related environmental issues along the northern and southern Ulster corridor leading to the proposed Casinos, and addressing other concerns related to the social impacts of casino gambling (such as increased law enforcement presence), and

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 Minority Leader Charles Nesbitt, New York State Senators John J. Bonacic and William J. Larkin, Jr., New York State Assemblymen Kevin Cahill, Clifford Crouch, Daniel Hooker and Thomas Kirwan, Assemblywoman Aileen M. Gunther and the New York State Association of Counties,

**Resolution No. 116 March 10, 2005**

**Requesting The Creation Of A Dedicated Casino Impact Fund For  
The Hudson Valley By The State Of New York**

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 31                      NOES: 2  
(Legislators R.S. Parete and Shapiro)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:  
NONE

0320