

Authorizing The Creation Of An Ulster County Global Warming Advisory Committee

The Environmental Committee (Chairman Shapiro and Legislators Bartels, Distel, R.A. Parete, Rodriguez, Fabiano and McAfee) and Legislator Roberti offer the following:

WHEREAS, Global warming is the observed increase in the average temperature of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans in recent decades, and its projected continuation in the future, and

WHEREAS, a report just issued by the United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) states that it is very likely that the main cause of the 1-degree increase in worldwide temperatures in the past decade is the greenhouse emissions created by the burning of fossil fuels, and

WHEREAS, Global warming is being cited as the cause of glacier reduction, rises in sea levels, changes in rainfall patterns, and the increased intensity and frequency of extreme weather events, and

WHEREAS, many climate scientists believe that unless immediate action is taken the impacts will continue to worsen and have serious consequences for the worldwide population, potentially impacting worldwide food supply, leading to the depletion of the ozone layer, the extinction of animal and plant species and cause extreme floods, droughts, heat waves, hurricanes, tornados and other extreme weather events, and

WHEREAS, strategies to mitigate the impacts of global warming include: the development of new technologies to reduce greenhouse emissions, the creation of renewable energy sources such as bio diesel, wind power, solar power, hybrid vehicles, and energy conservation, and

WHEREAS, Ulster County has passed positive environmental legislation by enacting policies on the purchase of wind power and green building standards, and is also investigating the purchase of hybrid vehicles and updating its open space plan, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature recognizes global warming as a serious problem and encourages local governments, businesses and citizens to take action to alleviate the impacts of global warming, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature believes it is in the best interest of the County of Ulster to create an Advisory Committee to address this issue, and

Resolution No. 139 April 11, 2007

Authorizing The Creation Of An Ulster County Global Warming Advisory Committee

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Environmental Committee has met and reviewed said request with a majority of members voting approval.

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature hereby creates the Global Warning Advisory Committee which shall consist of eight members, who shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature and shall consist of : (1) one representative from an environmental organization; (2) one Legislator from the Public Works Committee; (3) one representative from the Ulster County Area Transit; (4) upon, its establishment, one representative from the County department responsible for environmental affairs; (5) one Legislator from the Ulster County Environmental Committee; (6) one representative from the business community; (7) one representative from town or village government; (8) and one member of the Ulster County Environmental Management Council, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature, in making appointments to this Committee, shall consider the recommendation of the Ulster County Environmental Management Council as to appointment of the member from the Ulster County Environmental Management Council, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature, in appointing the Chairperson of this Committee, shall consider the recommendation of the Ulster County Environmental Committee as to the appointment of the Chairperson of this Committee, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Global Warming Advisory Committee will report to the Ulster County Legislature in writing before December 31 of each year. The report will include an evaluation of the effectiveness of County policies/programs that impact global warming (preservation of open space, wind power and green building standards policies, purchase of hybrid vehicles, etc.) and recommendations on new policies/legislation/actions that can be taken by the County, local governments and individual citizens to mitigate the impacts of global warming,

and moves its adoption.

Resolution No. 139 April 11, 2007

**Authorizing The Creation Of An Ulster County Global Warming
Advisory Committee**

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

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

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

0409