

**Calling For Federal & State Governments To Enact A “Gas Tax Holiday” From Memorial Day To Labor Day Each Year**

Legislators Roberti and R.A. Parete offer the following:

WHEREAS, rising gasoline prices (currently over \$3.60 per gallon) are having a devastating impact on our local economy (especially the tourism industry) and the ability of Ulster County families to make ends meet, and

WHEREAS, according to the Public Policy Institute, New York has the third highest gasoline taxes in the country, and

WHEREAS, combined federal, state and local taxes add approximately 65 cents per gallon to the cost of gasoline for Ulster County residents, and

WHEREAS, while New York recently capped the State sales tax on gasoline at \$2.00 (\$.08)/gallon, the State levies additional taxes that add 25 cents per gallon to the cost of gasoline, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature believes urgent action is needed to address skyrocketing gasoline prices and provide immediate relief to County residents also struggling to cope with rising school property taxes, home energy costs and the recent dramatic increase in food prices, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature also believes urgent action is needed because high gasoline prices will have a negative impact on the local tourism businesses during the summer driving months.

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature hereby calls on the United States Congress to adopt immediate legislation to suspend the collection of the 18.4 cent federal gas tax from Memorial Day to Labor Day each year, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature also calls on the New York State Legislature to enact immediate legislation to suspend the Motor Fuel Tax, license fee, testing fee, the Petroleum Business Tax and the State Sales Tax on gasoline, which adds approximately 33 cents to the cost of a gallon of gasoline, from Memorial Day to Labor Day annually and provide counties with the local option to suspend its sales tax on gasoline for the same period each year, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature respectfully requests that the New York State Legislature examine ways to permanently eliminate the amount of taxes levied on gasoline so New York’s taxes are more in line with neighboring states, and

**Resolution No. 159 May 14, 2008**

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FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to President George W. Bush, Governor David Paterson, New York State Comptroller’s Office, United States Senators Hillary Rodham Clinton and Charles Schumer, United States Congressman Maurice Hinchey, Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno, Senate Minority Leader Malcolm Smith, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Majority Leader Ron Canestrari, Assembly Minority Leader James N. Tedisco, New York State Senators John J. Bonacic and William J. Larkin, Jr., New York State Assemblymen Kevin A. Cahill, Clifford W. Crouch, Daniel L. Hooker and Thomas Kirwan, the National Association of Counties and the New York State Association of Counties,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

FINANCIAL IMPACT:  
UNKNOWN

0528

**REFERRED BACK TO COMMITTEE**