

**Recognizing October 15, 2013 As “White Cane Awareness Day”**

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairman Parete and Legislators Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio and Ronk)

Legislator Craig Lopez offers the following:

WHEREAS, White Cane Laws are on the books of every state in the United States and many other countries, providing blind persons a legal status in traffic; and

WHEREAS, the white cane now universally acknowledges that the bearer is blind; and

WHEREAS, New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law provides: “Every driver of a vehicle approaching an intersection or crosswalk shall yield the right of way to a pedestrian crossing or attempting to cross the roadway when such pedestrian is accompanied by a guide dog or using a cane which is metallic or white in color or white with a red tip.”; and

WHEREAS, many people who reside in Ulster County are blind and/or visually impaired; and

WHEREAS, these residents strive for their own independence and the opportunity to participate in public activities; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature recognizes the accomplishments of these individuals, the significance of the white cane and the Federal and State laws that protect their rights; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature hereby recognizes October 15, 2013 as “White Cane Awareness Day” and convey these sentiments to every citizen of Ulster County, so that all might acknowledge the rights of the blind and/or visually impaired and abide by the White Cane Safety Laws,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 21      NOES: 0  
(Absent: Legislators Briggs and Donaldson)  
(Legislator John Parete arrived at 7:16 PM)

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on September 10, 2013

FINANCIAL IMPACT:  
NONE

**Resolution No. 237      September 24, 2013**

**Recognizing October 15, 2013 As “White Cane Awareness Day”**

STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

This is to certify that I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution now on file in the office of said clerk, and which was adopted by said Legislature on the 24<sup>th</sup> Day of September, 2013, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said resolution and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 26<sup>th</sup> Day of September in the year Two Thousand and Thirteen.

[s] Victoria A. Fabella  
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk  
Ulster County Legislature