

Urging The Governor And The New York State Senate To Support New York State Assembly Bill No. A11590 - Legislation Adding An Additional \$550 Million To The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program And Create A Fund Of \$250 Million To Help New Yorkers Weatherize Their Homes

Chairman David B. Donaldson and Legislators Aiello, Cahill, Gregorius, Lomita, Provenzano, Rodriguez, Sheeley, Stoeckeler and Terpening offer the following:

WHEREAS, the “Ulster County Home Heating Summit” was held on July 25, 2008 in the Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, 244 Fair Street, Kingston, New York, and

WHEREAS, with skyrocketing home heating fuel costs, Ulster County residents are being hard hit financially and also face potentially serious health and safety risks, and

WHEREAS, the Home Heating Summit was designed to initiate a coordinated community response and to proactively address these extremely serious issues with the upcoming heating season presenting unprecedented challenges throughout the Northeast, and

WHEREAS, New York State Assembly Member Kevin A. Cahill has authored legislation (NYS Assembly Bill No. A11590) that aims to avert this crisis, and

WHEREAS, New York State Assembly Member Kevin A. Cahill’s proposal, Assembly Bill No. A11590, would add an additional \$550 million to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and would create a fund of \$250 million to help New Yorkers weatherize their homes; this money would be used to increase the existing benefits and expand the income eligibility level to include more families, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Assembly passed this legislation in June but has received no consideration from the Senate, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature supports New York State Assembly Bill No. A11590, legislation which would add additional funding to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and to create a fund to help New Yorkers weatherize their homes which would help protect those who are most vulnerable to the cold temperatures and ensure that residents of Ulster County and all of New York can afford to heat their homes this winter.

Resolution No. 297 September 10, 2008

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RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature urges the Governor and the New York State Senate to support New York State Assembly Bill No. A11590, legislation which would add an additional \$550 million to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and would create a fund of \$250 million to help New Yorkers weatherize their homes; this money would be used to increase the existing benefits and expand the income eligibility level to include more families, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor David Paterson, New York State Comptroller's Office, Senate Majority Leader Dean G. Skelos, 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, Peter Lopez and Thomas Kirwan, and the New York State Association of Counties,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 30 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislators Aiello, Kraft and Stoeckeler)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

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