

Requesting The New York State Legislature To Enhance The Penalties For SORA (Sexual Offender Registration Act) Violations

The Criminal Justice and Safety Committee (Chairman Dart and Legislators Distel, Gregorius, R.A. Parete, Zimet, Aiello and Every) offers the following:

WHEREAS, the penalty for violating the registration requirements under the current Sexual Offender Registration Act, is currently a Class A Misdemeanor, punishable by a year in jail for the first offense, and

WHEREAS, the dangers of sexual predators failing to register and therefore not being able to be controlled or monitored by law enforcement is unpalatable, and

WHEREAS, a Class A Misdemeanor does not act as an appropriate deterrent for such violations in the registration requirements.

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature requests the New York State enhance the penalties for SORA (Sexual Offender Registration Act) violations, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the event there is a cost associated with this State legislation, such cost shall not be a cost of the Counties or other localities, but shall be solely borne by the State, 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 Majority Leader Paul A. Tokasz, 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, and the New York State Association of Counties,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 30 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislators Alfonso, Every and Felicello)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE