

**Amending The Rules Of Order Of The Ulster County Legislature  
Regarding Voting In Committee By Ex-Officio Committee Members**

***DEFEATED IN COMMITTEE***

Referred to: The Laws and Rules, Governmental Services Committee (Chairman Richard Parete and Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Roberts, and Ronk)

Legislator Peter Loughran offers the following:

WHEREAS, most committees have an odd number of members; and

WHEREAS, all efforts should be made to adhere to a committee's decision making process; and

WHEREAS, allowing ex-officio members to vote in committee can create a tie; and

WHEREAS, creating a tie vote in a committee can prevent an issue from passing in the committee; and

WHEREAS, failing to pass the committee can give the impression that most committee members voted against the issue; and

WHEREAS, this type of vote is contrary to the committee's best interest; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that RULE 6. CHAIRPERSON EX-OFFICIO MEMBER OF ALL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES; is hereby amended as follows:

The Chairperson shall be a member ex-officio of all legislative committees with a vote thereon. The Chairperson's presence at a meeting shall be counted in determining whether a quorum is present; however, the presence of the Chairperson at such meeting will not increase the number of votes necessary to pass a particular matter unless all sitting members are present. **The Chairperson shall not have the ability to vote on an issue before a committee in order to create a tie. However, the Chairperson may vote to break an existing tie before a committee.**; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Rule change shall take effect upon an affirmative vote of this body subsequent to two consecutive readings,

and moves its adoption.

**Resolution No. 110      March 17, 2015**

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**FIRST READING:**

**SECOND READING:**

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

Defeated in Committee: Laws and Rules, Governmental Services on March 16, 2015

No Petition to Discharge filed

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

NONE