Resolution No. 194  June 11, 2008

Calling On United State Congress To Implement Energy Incentive Legislation For The Control and Stabilization Of Energy Prices And For The Promotion Of Energy Conservation

The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Lomita and Legislators Cahill, Dart, Gregorius, Provenzano, Zimet, Cummings, Gerentine and Noonan) and Legislators Bischoff, Briggs, Decker, Donaldson, Kraft, Loughran, R.A. Parete, R.S. Parete, Rodriguez, Shapiro, Sheeley, Stoeckeler and Terpening offer the following:

WHEREAS, the demand and supply for energy sources has reached a global crisis, causing economic hardships in all countries, and

WHEREAS, the supply of energy is not being delivered at reasonable prices to consumers, and

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States has initiated new legislation for year 2008, to be considered in order to control and stabilize energy prices, and create incentives to alleviate economic hardship among all consumers, and

WHEREAS, Congress is proposing legislation (HR 1252), known as the Federal Gas Price Gouging Prevention Act, which will authorize the Federal Trade Commission (FTS) to impose fines up to one hundred and fifty million dollars to corporations that price gouge, or artificially inflate the price of energy, and

WHEREAS, such legislation was passed by the House and was received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation and has been threatened with veto by the President, and

WHEREAS, Congress is proposing legislation (HR 1945), known as the Energy for Our Future Program which will promote incentives to produce and use energy consumption products for consumers of transportation and building design and construction products, and

WHEREAS, such legislation has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Environment, and

WHEREAS, Congress is proposing legislation (HR 5351) known as the Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Tax Act of 2008 which will create incentives to:

1] Reduce the United States’ dependence on foreign oil;

2] Increase renewable electricity production;

3] Create jobs which protect the environment;
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4] Provide tax incentives for renewable energy electricity, energy and fuel, plug-in hybrid cars and energy efficient appliances and buildings; and

5] Eliminate $18 billion in tax subsidies for oil and gas companies.

WHEREAS, such legislation has been passed by the United State House of Representatives and the United State Senate has considered and passed an alternative as a renewable energy tax credit bill in the United States Senate, and veto action is being considered by the President, and

WHEREAS, Congress is proposing legislation (HR 6049), known as the Energy and Tax Extenders Act of 2008 which would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives for renewable energy production and conservation and provide tax incentives for consumers, and

WHEREAS, such legislation has been passed by the United State House of Representatives and the United State Senate has considered and passed an alternative as a renewable energy tax credit bill in the United States Senate, and veto action is being considered by the President, and

WHEREAS, Congress is proposing legislation (HR 2283), known as the Eliminate Gas Price Discrimination Act which will prohibit oil companies from controlling franchised gasoline stations from “shopping” for lower cost gasoline for retail distribution, and

WHEREAS, such legislation has been referred to the House Committees on Energy and Commerce and Energy and Air Quality, and

WHEREAS, Congress is proposing legislation (HR 6000), known as the Gas Spike Price Act, which will reduce emissions over time by providing a $6,000 tax credit to purchasers of fuel efficient passengers vehicles, by amending Sec 5896 of the 1986 Internal Revenue Code, the funding of which will be generated by imposing a windfall profit tax on oil companies, and

WHEREAS, such legislation has been referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means, and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, Congress is proposing legislation (HR 2505), known as the PUMP ACT, which will amend the 1986 Revenue code to increase the tax credit for
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alternative fuel vehicle refueling property from 30 to 50% and to increase the limit on such credit for commercial properties to $50,000 through the year 2014, and to Amend the Clayton Antitrust Act make it an unlawful restriction of trade to prohibit a service station franchisee from installing alternative fuel vehicle refueling property, and

WHEREAS, such legislation has been referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means, and the Judiciary Committee, and

WHEREAS, Congress is proposing legislation (HR 2058), known as the Close the Enron Loophole Act, which will amend the Commodity Exchange Act to close the Enron Loophole, prevent price manipulation and excessive speculation the trading of energy commodities, and

WHEREAS, such legislation has been referred to the Senate Committee and to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry.

RESOLVED, the Congress of the United States pass new legislation for year 2008, to control and stabilize energy prices, and create incentives to alleviate economic hardship among all consumers, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to President George W. Bush, United States Senators Hillary Rodham Clinton and Charles Schumer, United States Congressman Maurice Hinchey, Governor David Paterson, 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, Peter Lopez and Thomas Kirwan, the National Association of Counties and the New York State Association of Counties,
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and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:   30    NOES:    0
(Absent: Legislators Kraft, Roberti and Sheeley)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
UNKNOWN

0630