Resolution No. 323 October 7, 2008

Urging The Governor And The New York State Legislature To Oppose The Proposed Changes To The Public Health Law, Consolidating Local Registrars Of Vital Statistics

The Health Services Committee (Chairman R.S. Parete and Legislators Briggs, Stoeckeler, Terpening, Petit, Roberti and Ronk) offers the following

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Health has developed a program bill that would allow the Commissioner to consolidate the function of the local registrars of vital statistics (Assembly Bill No. A11560 and Senate Bill No. S08184), and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Health could consolidate these services without County Legislative approval, and

WHEREAS, the local Town and Village Clerks have provided this service professionally and efficiently over the years, and

WHEREAS, losing this business would have a financial impact on the local governments, and

WHEREAS, many citizens are under financial stress due to high fuel costs, and

WHEREAS, the County’s geography would increase this burden since services would be located further from the residents, and

WHEREAS, the Health Services Committee has met and reviewed said request with a majority of the members voting approval.

RESOLVED, that in the interest of good government, the Ulster County Legislature urges the New York State Governor and New York State Legislature to oppose the proposed changes to the Public Health Law, consolidating of the function of local registrars of vital statistics, 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,
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and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:  26   NOES:  0
(Absent:  Legislators Aiello, Briggs, Kraft, Shapiro, Sheeley, Terrizzi and Zimet)
(Legislator R.A. Parete arrived at 7:25 PM)
(Legislator Terrizzi arrived at 7:48 PM)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

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