

Establishing A Policy To Record Electronically All County Public Meetings

Referred to: The Laws, Rules and Government Services Committee (Chairman Heppner and Legislators Gavaris, Levine, Roberts, and Ronk), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Cahill, Criswell, Roberts, and Ronk)

Legislators Tracey Bartels, Phil Erner and Laura Petit, and Minority Leader Ronk offer the following:

WHEREAS, the people must have equitable access to their government including knowledge of the proceedings of public meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature and County boards and commissions conduct their official business in open public meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature video records its sessions, as well as audio records committee meetings; and

WHEREAS, a record of minutes must be maintained for all open meetings; and

WHEREAS, the County maintains its records electronically in keeping with the standards set forth in open meetings law; and

WHEREAS, maintaining audio and/or video records of public meetings expands ~~their~~ accessibility to those who speak and understand but do not read (English), or who have visual or aural impairments; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, video and/or audio recordings shall be required for every public meeting-of the government of Ulster County required to keep an official record, and, be it further

RESOLVED, such video and/or audio recordings shall be kept publicly accessible; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that this policy shall not remove or replace any existing requirement to keep minutes, transcripts or other official records on paper or in any other form whatsoever, and, be it further

RESOLVED, where possible, this policy shall take effect immediately after adoption, with all records in compliance no later than three months following adoption of this Resolution,

