

RESOLUTION NO. 81

AMENDING THE ALBANY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE RULES OF ORDER

Introduced: January 26, 2016

By Mr. Higgins:

WHEREAS, Rule 23 of the Legislative Rules of Order has been interpreted to give unilateral authority at any given time to the Chairperson to refer local laws and resolutions back to committee, and

WHEREAS, It is not the intent of the Albany County Legislative Rules of Order to provide the Chairperson with such authority to make decisions on such matters unilaterally, especially after local laws and resolutions have been thoroughly vetted through the committee process and are before the house for final consideration, and

WHEREAS, Such authority in the Albany County Legislative Rules of Order is undemocratic and prevents members from exercising their rights to vote on such issues, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Albany County Legislature that "Rule 23 – Referrals To Committee" of the Albany County Legislative Rules of Order is amended as follows:

RULE 23 - REFERRALS TO COMMITTEE

The Chairperson may ~~at any time on his own motion~~ upon initial introduction or following a public hearing on a local law refer any communication, petition, report, local law or resolution when offered or presented to such committee as he or she deems proper. Said local law or resolution shall be returned to the floor of the Legislature for action of the whole body by the second regular monthly meeting of the body or within sixty (60) days whichever is longer.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the County Legislature is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the appropriate County Officials.

Referred to Law Committee. 2/9/16

Without Recommendation - Law Committee. 6/27/16

On roll call vote the following voted in favor: Messrs. Bullock, Burgdorf, Ms. Cunningham, Messrs. Dawson, Drake, Grimm, Higgins, Ms. Lekakis, Messrs. Mauriello, Mayo, Ms. McLean Lane, Messrs. Mendick, O'Brien, Reinhardt and Stevens – 15.

Those opposed: Mr. Beston, Ms. Chapman, Messrs. Clay, Clenahan, Commisso, Crouse, Domalewicz, Ethier, Feeney, Fein, Hogan, A. Joyce, R. Joyce, Ms. Lockart, Mr. Mackey, Ms. McKnight, Messrs. Miller, Signoracci, Simpson, Smith, Touchette, Tunny, Ward and Ms. Willingham – 24.

Resolution was defeated. 7/11/16