

**RESOLUTION NO. 324**

**DEDICATING TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE COUNTY'S SAVINGS FROM IMPLEMENTING A SOLAR ENERGY PROGRAM TO AN INCENTIVE PROGRAM TO ASSIST HOMEOWNERS, FARMERS, AND SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS TO PURCHASE OR LEASE A SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM**

Introduced: 8/10/15

By Messrs. Mackey, Reilly, Bullock, Morse, Nichols, Corcoran Ms. Chapman, Messrs. Clay, Clenahan, Commisso, Cotrofeld, Domalewicz, Ethier, Feeney, Higgins, Jacobson, Joyce, Mayo, Ms. McKnight, Messrs. Rahm, Simpson and Ward:

WHEREAS, Albany County is dedicated to increasing and expanding its use and access to renewable sources of energy as a way to reduce energy costs for the County, and

WHEREAS, Solar energy technology is becoming increasingly cost effective and reliable as a form of renewable energy for the County, and

WHEREAS, based upon preliminary estimates it appears that the County has the potential to save several million dollars in reduced energy costs over the course of the next 20 to 25 years through implementation of a solar energy program, and

WHEREAS, The County seeks to encourage the use of solar energy systems amongst the public as a method for farmers, small business owners and homeowners to reduce their energy costs, and

WHEREAS, It is important to understand the challenges that farmers, small business owners and homeowners may face in accessing these solar energy systems, and to recognize the position of the County to assist the public in having affordable access to such systems, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Albany County Legislature that twenty-five percent of the savings realized by the County's implementation of a solar energy program shall be dedicated to an incentive program to assist farmers, small business owners and homeowners purchase or lease solar energy systems to reduce their energy consumption, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That upon implementation of the solar energy program, the comptroller shall certify the amount of savings realized each year and furthermore certify the amount representing twenty-five percent thereof which shall be allocated to the dedicated fund for this solar incentive initiative, 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 Audit and Finance Committee. 8/10/15*