

RESOLUTION NO. 165a

REQUIRING ALL COMMITTEE MEETINGS TO BE VIDEOTAPED AND MADE AVAILABLE ONLINE

Introduced: 4/13/15

By Messrs. Commisso, Ward, Clenahan, Stevens, Ms. Busch, Mr. Mendick and Law Committee, Messrs. Beston, Bullock, Ms. Chapman, Mr. Clay, Ms. Connolly, Messrs. Corcoran, Cotrofeld, Dawson, Domalewicz, Ethier, Feeney, Higgins, Jacobson, Joyce, Ms. Kinsch, Mr. Mackey, Mss. Maffia-Tobler, McLean Lane, McKnight, Messrs. Morse, Nichols, O'Brien, Rahm, Reilly and Simpson:

WHEREAS, The Albany County Legislature currently has 10 Standing Committees and 2 Special Committees, and

WHEREAS, The work of these committees is just as important as the work that is done on the floor of the Legislature, and

WHEREAS, There are minutes taken at the committee meetings, that are, at times inaccurate and vague as to exactly what happened during committee discussions, and

WHEREAS, There have been instances where the meeting minutes have reflected inaccurate votes that have to be amended, which then leads to an instance of "he said/she said"; a completely avoidable situation remedied by videotaped meetings, and

WHEREAS, The work and discussions of those meetings are vitally important and hold extreme value to the residents of Albany County and those elected officials who are involved in the process, and, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, In light of the advances in technology and the push for open and honest government and because Albany County prides itself on being a leader in transparency, this Honorable body hereby requires that all Committee meetings of the Albany County Legislature be videotaped and the videos be kept online, and be it further

RESOLVED, that such videotapes may not be used in violation of the rules on file with the Clerk of the Legislature, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the videos of the Committee meetings of the Albany County Legislature shall be distributed to both the Majority and Minority Offices, and be it further

RESOLVED, That this shall take effect within 30 days from the passage of this resolution, and be it further

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

Referred to Law Committee. 4/13/15

Referred to Audit and Finance Committee. 8/10/15

Adopted by unanimous vote. 12/7/15