

RESOLUTION NO. 224

AMENDING RULE 27 OF THE LEGISLATIVE RULES OF ORDER

Introduced: 6/11/12

By Mr. Mendick, Ms. Busch, Messrs. Crouse, Higgins, Mss. Kinsch, Lockart, Messrs. Nichols and O'Brien:

WHEREAS, Rule 27 of the Legislative Rules of Order titled Challenging the Chair, allows for any member of this Honorable Body to challenge the ruling or decision made by the Chairman of the Legislature, and

WHEREAS, Rule 27 requires the Chairman of the Legislature to put into question on the motion "Shall the decision of the Chair be overruled", which is decided upon by a majority of the members present, and

WHEREAS, As stated in Rule 27 a vote of the majority of member present has taken place when the challenge is issued it is always done by a voice vote with the inability to get an accurate count of votes to ensure fairness, and

WHEREAS, In this new political atmosphere of open government and transparency it is imperative that the residents of Albany County have a clear and concise understanding of the Legislative process and voting of this Honorable Body, and

WHEREAS, The Chairman ruling on the challenge of his own decision may call for a roll call vote which will ensure proper proceedings and allow the residents of Albany County to believe that this Honorable Body conducts itself in only the highest and most honorable standards, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Chairman of the Legislature is required to put forth his question "Shall the decision of the Chair be overruled?" loudly enough for the entire Honorable Body to hear, and be it further

RESOLVED, That Rule 27 of the Legislative Rules of Order shall be amended to require a roll call vote of the members present on any challenge to the Chair, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the amendment to the Rules of the Legislature shall take effect immediately after the passage of said 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.

On roll call vote the following voted in favor: Ms. Benedict, Mr. Bullock, Ms. Busch, Messrs. Clenahan, Clouse, Crouse, Dawson, Higgins, Hogan, Joyce, Mss. Kinsch, Lockart, Messrs. Mendick, Nichols, O'Brien, Steck, Stevens and Tunny – 18.

Those opposed: Mr. Beston, Ms. Chapman, Messrs. Clay, Commisso, Corcoran, Cotrofeld, Domalewicz, Ethier, Feeney, Jacobson, Mackey, Ms. Maffia-Tobler, Mr. Mayo, Ms. McKnight, Messrs. Morse, Rahm, Reilly, Simpson and Ward – 19.

Resolution was defeated. 6/11/12