

RESOLUTION NO. 410

REQUIRING THE COMMISSIONER OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET TO ANALYZE AND DEVELOP A PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTING A LAND BANK FOR ALBANY COUNTY

Introduced: 10/11/11

By Mr. Higgins, Audit and Finance Committee and Mr. Bullock:

WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of the Commissioner of the Department of Management and Budget as Albany County's Tax Enforcement Officer to pursue the enforcement of unpaid taxes under the jurisdiction of the County and to foreclose properties that remain unpaid, and

WHEREAS, Local Law No. 2 for 1998, notwithstanding Section 215 of the New York State County Law, authorized sales and conveyance of all the right, title and interest of the County in real property owned by Albany County determined to no longer be necessary for public use, and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 190 for 2005 with subsequent amendments details the conditions for disposition of County-owned parcels, and Resolution No. 80 for 2008 installed safeguards to prevent speculators from buying tax-foreclosed properties and adding to the blight of abandoned buildings, and

WHEREAS, Blighted parcels continue to be sold via Public Auction and subsequently re-foreclosed by the County, resulting in financial loss and negative impact on our communities, and

WHEREAS, The Land Bank Act passed by the New York State Legislature and signed by the Governor on July 29, 2011 creates a new tool for foreclosing governmental units to revitalize New York's main streets, town centers, and urban areas, and

WHEREAS, It has long been the judgment of this Honorable Body that tax foreclosed properties should be disposed of in a manner that maximizes long term investment and return to the County taxpayer, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the Albany County Legislature that the Commissioner of the Department of Management and Budget as the County's Tax Enforcement Officer is hereby directed to analyze and report to this body within 90 days of the passage of this resolution a plan implementing a land bank in Albany County, 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. 10/11/11

Adopted by unanimous vote. 11/14/11