

A motion was made by Mr. Bullock to invoke Rule 11 and was passed by unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 374

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FAIR SPONSORED BY THE CAPITAL REGION 350 CLIMATE ACTION

Introduced: 9/13/10

By Messrs. Bullock, Aylward, Beston, Ms. Chapman, Messrs. Clay, Clenahan, Commisso, Ms. Connolly, Messrs. Cotrofeld, Dawson, Domalewicz, Ethier, Gordon, Higgins, Horstmyer, Houghtaling, Infante, Joyce, Ms. Maffia-Tobler, Messrs. Mayo, McCoy, Ms. McKnight, Messrs. Morse, Nichols, Rahm, Reilly, Scavo, Steck, Timmins, Ward and Ms. Willingham:

WHEREAS, On October 10, 2010 Capital Region 350 Climate Action is hosting a Sustainable Energy Fair at Albany High School for the entire community, and

WHEREAS, A citywide high school student green competition will be launched at the Fair in which Albany High School will participate, and invitations have gone out to Abrookin Technical High School, the Academy of the Holy Names Upper, Harriet Tubman Free School, Christian Brothers Academy, the Albany Academies, Bishop Maginn, La Salle School, Green Tech High School Charter School, and Albany Leadership Charter School. Groups of students – classes of students even – are invited to develop green projects that will help to improve and accelerate Albany's green initiative, and

WHEREAS, The Fair will also host the New York State Museum, Honest Weight Food Co-op, Zero Waste, greenfiber.com, the City of Albany Department of Recycling, RPI and AHS's alliance First Robotics Team, DiGeorgio's Bakehouse, an idea wall, 350.org, the Albany Bicycle Club, Community Energy, Capital District Transition Network, as well as other participants, and

WHEREAS, Capital Region 350 Climate Action is a group of environmental activists that formed in the Capital District in 2009. Its first event was a rally on the Capital steps, and was one of 5200 rallies and demonstrations in 181 countries around the globe that day. It was in response to a call from 350.org, an international grassroots organization that was formed at Middlebury College by the writer and environmentalist Bill McKibben, and some Middlebury students. Its theory of change is simple: everywhere at once, and

WHEREAS, Authoritative scientists have been warning for years that industrial burning of fossil fuels changes the chemistry of the atmosphere, causing a greenhouse effect that warms Planet Earth decade by decade, changing the climate conditions in which our civilization developed, and

WHEREAS, Scientists have been saying that such climate change would increase the frequency and severity of extreme weather events, such as heat waves, hurricanes, droughts and floods, change rainfall patterns, raise sea levels, and disrupt wildlife habitat and agriculture, with immense economic costs and disruption of human well-being, and

WHEREAS, Although individual weather events cannot be attributed with certainty to global climate change, there has indeed been a dramatic increase of extreme weather events as global temperatures have increased: unprecedented heat and firestorms in Russia and catastrophic flooding in Pakistan this summer, and in recent years drought and wildfires in California, flooding in the upper Mississippi, drought in Georgia, record hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico, inundating the city of New Orleans, and warnings of worse to come, and

WHEREAS, Investments in new sustainable energy systems can substantially reduce destabilizing greenhouse emissions, save billions of dollars in avoided fuel costs, and create millions of good domestic jobs, and

WHEREAS, Students today will live with the consequences of decisions we will make in the next few years, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Albany County Legislature hereby recognizes the Sustainable Energy Fair and wishes the Capital Region 350 Climate Action continued success in the Capital Region throughout the coming years, 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.

Adopted by unanimous vote. 9/13/10