

**MINUTES
SPECIAL SESSION
Herkimer County Legislature
Tuesday, May 22, 2012
10:00 a.m.**

The Special Session of the Herkimer County Legislature was called to order by Chairman Bono at 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Bono called on Sheriff Christopher Farber to lead the Legislature in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Bono called for a moment of silence in recognition of all veterans, past and present.

The Clerk called the roll, the following answered:

Present: Johnson, Hendrix, Hyde, Brezinski, Manno, Smith, Bono, Peplinski, Korce, Russell, Shaw (11).

Absent: Hartman, Rose, Schrader, Maneen, Ackerman, Weakley (6).

Chairman Bono stated that the communication received by the Legislature and the Committee to which it was referred was listed on the agenda and asked if any member of the Legislature requested mention of that particular communication. There was no request to have the communications read.

No. 182 – A communication was received from the Chairman of the Legislature requesting the Special Session. Ordered filed.

On motion of Mr. Hyde and Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Shaw and Mr. Hendrix, Resolution No. 131 of the Committee on Administration/Veterans' Affairs and the Committee on Ways and Means declaring May 22, 2012 to be "May Day for Mandate Relief" in Herkimer County and urging the Mandate Relief Council to take swift action in submitting a package of mandate relief proposals to Governor Cuomo and the State Legislature to be voted on this session was handed up; discussion was held; was voted on and adopted by the following voice vote:

Ayes: (11) Against: None

Absent: Hartman, Rose, Schrader, Maneen, Ackerman, Weakley (6).

No. 131

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION/VETERANS' AFFAIRS AND THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS DECLARING MAY 22, 2012 TO BE "MAY DAY FOR MANDATE RELIEF" IN HERKIMER COUNTY AND URGING THE MANDATE RELIEF COUNCIL TO TAKE SWIFT ACTION IN SUBMITTING A PACKAGE OF MANDATE RELIEF PROPOSALS TO GOVERNOR CUOMO AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO BE VOTED ON THIS SESSION

WHEREAS, the State of New York mandates the delivery of State programs using local resources, causing some counties to dedicate more than 80 percent of their entire budget toward the funding of State mandated programs and fixed costs; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Association of Counties has identified just 9 state mandates that equal 90 percent of all county property taxes levied in 2010 (outside of New York City), consuming \$4 billion of \$4.4 billion in county properties taxes levied. These mandates include: Medicaid, TANF/Public Assistance Safety Net, Child Welfare Protective and Preventive Care, Special Education Pre-School, Early Intervention, Probation, Indigent Defense, Youth Detention and Pensions; and

WHEREAS, these State mandates are the root cause of high county property and sales taxes in New York and have led to a decline in the delivery of important local services; and

WHEREAS, these State imposed mandates continue to contribute to New York's highest in the nation local tax burden for residents and businesses, severely damaging New York's ability to attract, create and maintain good paying jobs, as well as contributing to population losses to other states; and

WHEREAS, when the State enacted a property tax cap in 2011, a Mandate Relief Council was established to review specific mandates and advance legislative proposals to reduce the statutory and regulatory burden on municipalities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Herkimer County hereby declares Tuesday, May 22, 2012 to be "Mayday for Mandate Relief" to demonstrate that the decisions made in Albany have a direct impact on the property tax levy and local community service here in Herkimer County; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Herkimer County hereby calls on the Mandate Relief Council to take swift action in submitting a package of Mandate Relief proposals to Governor Cuomo and the State Legislature to be voted on by our state representatives during the 2012 Legislative Session; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Senator James L. Seward, Assemblyman Marc W. Butler and the New York State Association of Counties.

Dated: May 22, 2012.

JEAN E. MANEEN
BRUCE WEAKLEY
FREDERICK J. SHAW, JR.
ROBERT N. HYDE
PETER F. MANNO
RAYMOND JOHNSON
**Committee on Administration/
Veterans' Affairs**

PATRICK E. RUSSELL
DENNIS KORCE
RAYMOND SMITH
BRUCE WEAKLEY
BERNARD PEPLINSKI
KURT J. ACKERMAN
Committee on Ways and Means

On motion of Mr. Manno, seconded by Mr. Hyde, the Special Session adjourned at 10:13
a.m.