

Warren County Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION NO. 420 OF 2025

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY SUPERVISORS STROUGH, CONOVER, WILD, DRISCOLL, MADAY, GERACI AND THOMAS

RESOLUTION URGING THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION AMENDING GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW IN RELATION TO EXEMPTING PUBLIC EMPLOYEES HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS PAID BY TOWNS AND COUNTIES IN NEW YORK STATE FROM THE NEW YORK STATE REAL PROPERTY TAX CAP

WHEREAS, towns and counties throughout New York State are required by law and collective bargaining agreements to provide health insurance benefits to their employees and retirees, and

WHEREAS, the cost of providing such health insurance benefits has risen substantially in recent years and these increases are largely outside the control of local governments, and

WHEREAS, under current law, the annual growth in local property tax levies is limited by the Real Property Tax Cap established under New York State General Municipal Law §3-c, which restricts local governments' ability to raise revenue to meet mandated expenses, and

WHEREAS, health insurance premiums represent a significant and growing portion of local government budgets and the inability to exclude these costs from the tax cap calculation places additional fiscal strain on towns and counties, and

WHEREAS, exempting public employee health insurance premium costs by towns and counties from the tax cap calculation would provide meaningful relief, allowing local governments to maintain essential public services without exceeding the statutory levy limit, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Warren County Board of Supervisors hereby urges the New York State Legislature and Governor Kathy Hochul to enact legislation amending General Municipal Law §3-c to exempt from the Real Property Tax Cap all amounts paid by towns and counties for public employee and retiree health insurance premiums, and be it further

RESOLVED, RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to each county in New York State, outside of New York City, encouraging member counties to enact similar resolutions, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors be, and hereby is, directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Daniel Stec, Assemblyman Matthew Simpson, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Senate Minority Leader Robert G. Ortt, Speaker of the Assembly Carl E. Heastie, New York State Association of Counties, the Inter-County Association of the Adirondacks, and all others deemed necessary and proper.