



Tompkins County Legislature

Governor Daniel D. Tompkins Building
Ithaca, NY 14850

Meeting: 05/16/17 05:30 PM

Department: Assessment

Category: Real Property

Functional Category:

SCHEDULED

RESOLUTION NO. DOC ID: 7003 A

1 **Resolution in Support of Providing Affordable Housing, Urging New**
2 **York State to Amend the Real Property Tax Law to Allow Tompkins**
3 **County the Option to Provide a Partial Exemption to Multi-Unit**
4 **Residential Properties Converted to Owner-Occupied Residences**

5 WHEREAS, there is a demonstrable and critical shortage of affordable housing within Tompkins County, and

6
7 WHEREAS, this Legislature has attempted to address that shortage through a number of measures, including
8 participation with the City of Ithaca and Cornell University in the development of the Community Housing Fund, and

9
10 WHEREAS, the New York State Legislature has authorized many cities to offer an exemption for multi-family
11 housing that was converted to single-family houses under Real Property Tax Law Section 421-‘X’, and

12
13 WHEREAS, planned development within Tompkins County will add a significant number of bedrooms over
14 the next year that will result in a higher vacancy rate within the County, and

15
16 WHEREAS, the higher vacancy rate would allow for older subdivided and poorly maintained housing to
17 return to an owner-occupied single-family residence with one or two units, and

18
19 WHEREAS, it is in the interest of Tompkins County to allow for this transition to happen to encourage owner-
20 occupied homes, now therefore be it

21
22 RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Government Operations Committee, That the Tompkins County
23 Legislature urges the New York State Legislature to amend the Real Property Tax Law by creating a new section of
24 law that would allow Tompkins County, by local law, to grant a partial exemption equal to the increase in assessment
25 due to the conversion of a multi-unit rental property to an owner-occupied one- or two-unit residence by foregoing any
26 increase in assessment in year one and thereafter increasing the assessment rate by 12.5% per year,

27
28 RESOLVED, further, That the Clerk of the Legislature send copies of the resolution to Governor Andrew
29 Cuomo, Senators James Seward, Pamela Helming, and Tom O’Mara, and Assemblywoman Barbara Lifton, and
30 NYSAC (New York State Association of Counties).

31 **SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20**