



Tompkins County Legislature

Governor Daniel D. Tompkins Building
Ithaca, NY 14850

Meeting: 12/07/17 03:00 PM
Department: Planning, Development, and Environmental Quality Committee

Category: Funding
Functional Category: Cooperative Extension

SCHEDULED

RESOLUTION NO. *DOC ID: 7479*

1 **A Resolution to Increase State Support for Cornell Cooperative**
2 **Extension County Associations in the State of New York**

3 WHEREAS, Cornell Cooperative Extension is a formal collaboration between the National Institute of Food
4 and Agriculture at the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture), New York State, county governments, and
5 the citizens of the State, that has served to apply unbiased, research-based knowledge from Cornell, New York's Land
6 Grant University, to the needs of New Yorkers and their communities for over 100 years, and
7

8 WHEREAS, local Extension educators are key community partners in helping to implement State initiatives
9 including maximizing agriculture and local food systems, strengthening the economy, promoting healthier eating
10 habits and access to good nutrition, fighting poverty particularly in rural areas, protecting water quality and
11 stewardship of New York's natural resources, building opportunity through STEM (science, technology, engineering
12 and mathematics)-based youth education and leadership skills in 4-H Youth Development, promoting renewable
13 energy options while protecting farmland resources, and partnering where appropriate in Taste NY initiatives to
14 promote tourism and local food and farm businesses, and
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16 WHEREAS, support from Federal, State, and county sources is essential to the continued success of locally-
17 governed county cooperative extension associations, and
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19 WHEREAS, State appropriations for county cooperative extension associations to match county government
20 appropriations as authorized by Section 224 (8) of the County Law have remained unchanged for seventeen years (17)
21 while county appropriations have increased, and
22

23 WHEREAS, State funding is needed to ensure that the Cornell Cooperative Extension system can equitably
24 work for all New York residents through increased resources to support rural, suburban, and urban community
25 development needs, now, therefore be it
26

27 RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Planning, Development, and Environmental Quality Committee, That
28 the Tompkins County Legislature supports increasing the State appropriation for Cornell Cooperative Extension
29 associations to \$8 million with such funds to be distributed directly to the associations through Cornell University as
30 agent for the State as provided by law.

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