



Tompkins County Legislature

Governor Daniel D. Tompkins Building
Ithaca, NY 14850

Meeting: 12/19/17 05:30 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 among 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 is intended to provide unbiased, research-based knowledge, information, tools, and
6 education from Cornell, New York's Land Grant University, to the needs of New Yorkers and their communities for
7 over 100 years, and
8

9 WHEREAS, local Extension educators are key community partners in helping to implement State initiatives
10 including maximizing benefits from agriculture and local food systems, strengthening the economy, promoting
11 healthier eating habits and access to good nutrition, fighting poverty particularly in rural areas, protecting water quality
12 and stewarding of New York's natural resources, building opportunity through STEM (science, technology,
13 engineering and mathematics)-based youth education and leadership skills in 4-H Youth Development, promoting
14 renewable energy options while protecting farmland resources, and partnering where appropriate in Taste NY
15 initiatives to promote tourism and local food and farm businesses, and
16

17 WHEREAS, support from Federal, State, and county sources is essential to the continued success of locally-
18 governed county cooperative extension associations, and
19

20 WHEREAS, State appropriations for county cooperative extension associations to match county government
21 appropriations as authorized by Section 224 (8) of the County Law have remained unchanged for at least seventeen
22 years (17) while county appropriations have increased, and
23

24 WHEREAS, State funding is needed to ensure that the Cornell Cooperative Extension system can equitably
25 work for all New York residents through increased resources to support rural, suburban, and urban community
26 development needs, now, therefore be it
27

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

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