RESOLUTION NO. 333

REQUESTING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND COUNTY ATTORNEY TO NEGOTIATE WITH SHORT-TERM RENTAL SERVICES AND ONLINE REMARKETERS FOR THE PURPOSES OF COLLECTING THE HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX

Introduced: 9/14/20
By Messrs. O'Brien, Mayo, Bruschi, Fein, Ms. Lekakis and Mr. Peter:

WHEREAS, The County of Albany is responsible for the collection of the Hotel Occupancy Tax as a revenue source to service our debt and provide funding for tourism, and

WHEREAS, The Hotel Occupancy Tax is not currently being applied to short-term rental services and online remarketers, significantly diminishing the possible revenue of the County, and

WHEREAS, More than thirty (30) counties throughout the state have reached agreements with online remarketers for the purposes of collecting the Hotel Occupancy Tax being rented through their services, including three counties contiguous to Albany County, and

WHEREAS, The potential revenue generated from the inclusion of short-term rental services and online remarketers could significantly improve the County's financial status, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Honorable Body requests that the County Executive and County Attorney negotiate or otherwise enforce the collection of taxes due the County for the occupancy of rooms maintained by short-term rental services and online remarketers located within the County of Albany, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That any agreement providing for the collection of taxes due the County for the occupancy of rooms maintained by short-term rental services and online remarketers located within the County of Albany shall come before the Legislature for its approval, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the County Legislature is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the appropriate County Officials.

Referred to Audit and Finance Committee – 9/14/20
Favorable Recommendation Audit and Finance Committee – 10/1/20
Adopted by unanimous vote – 10/13/20