

1 **NYSAC 2024 Fall Seminar**
2 **Standing Committee on Taxation and Finance**
3 **Resolution #5**

4
5 **Resolution Calling on Governor Hochul and the State Legislature to**
6 **Improve Reuse and Recovery Options in Communities Hosting State**
7 **Facilities and Assets that are Closed or Decommissioned that have a Major**
8 **Impact on Employment and Local Revenues**

9
10 **WHEREAS**, the state has downsized certain facilities and assets that are underutilized
11 due to state law changes or inefficiency; and

12
13 **WHEREAS**, these state facilities and assets can often be by one of the largest employers
14 and purchasers of local products helping local businesses and communities prosper; and

15
16 **WHEREAS**, local communities and counties greatly appreciate the economic impact
17 from these state facilities and come to rely on their economic impact; and

18
19 **WHEREAS**, the state finds it necessary at times to close facilities and/or
20 decommission assets as their circumstances require; and

21
22 **WHEREAS**, these closures often have dramatic impacts on local economic conditions;
23 and

24
25 **WHEREAS**, state agencies sometimes do not agree to pay fees and charges to local
26 governments for services or benefits received which becomes an additional cost
27 absorbed by the local government or other payers in the community; and

28
29 **WHEREAS**, some localities have expressed interest in acquiring closed state facilities
30 or decommissioned assets, but the state has refused to transfer the asset; and

31
32 **WHEREAS**, for local communities it is essential to replace or revitalize the defunct
33 state property to help maintain the local economy but repurposing these sites often do
34 not happen for a variety of reasons including facilities being outdated, or located inside
35 of state protected lands like the Adirondack Park or Catskill Park, or other state
36 protected areas; and

37
38 **WHEREAS**, in the past the state has provided additional direct fiscal assistance to help
39 communities through this process; and

40
41 **WHEREAS**, without the ability to repurpose closed state facilities and replace the lost
42 jobs and economic impact communities are more likely to fall into economic decline, be
43 subject to lower real estate values, and suffer population loss.

1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the New York State Association of
2 Counties (NYSAC) urges Governor Hochul and the State Legislature to develop more
3 robust assistance programs to help local communities repurpose closed or
4 decommissioned facilities through direct cash assistance, encouraging private-sector
5 redevelopment, transferring properties to localities, job training, site
6 clearing/contamination remediation and preparation for future development, if
7 necessary, among other items; and
8

9 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, in situations where the state determines a closed
10 state property or decommissioned asset lies within a state park or state protected area
11 and cannot be repurposed, the state should provide payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT) to
12 the local communities based on the economic impact the facility/asset had while in use;
13 and
14

15 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, copies of this resolution be sent to the counties of
16 New York State encouraging them to enact similar resolutions; and
17

18 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, NYSAC shall forward copies of this resolution to
19 Governor Kathy Hochul, the New York State Legislature and all others deemed
20 necessary and proper.