

RESOLUTION NO. 2026058

RE: MEMORIALIZATION URGING PASSAGE OF NEW YORK SENATE BILL S.8462 AND NEW YORK ASSEMBLY BILL A.8908 BY THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE

Legislators MUNN, VALDES SMITH, ALEXANDER, ARNOFF, BREDLI, DRAGO, KAUL, KEARNEY, LAWLER, REDL, RHODES, SHAH and WINSBY offer the following and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Mandating End of Lawless Tactics (MELT) Act (S.8462/A.8908) would require all law enforcement officers, including federal immigration enforcement agents, operating in New York State to wear clearly visible uniforms, display name badges, and show agency-identifying apparel during civilian enforcement actions; and

WHEREAS, the use of masks, face coverings, and plainclothes attire by federal agents during immigration enforcement operations has created widespread fear and confusion in communities across New York State, undermining public trust in law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the Dutchess County Legislature is committed to public safety, the rule of law, accountable government, and the protection of strong families and healthy communities; and

WHEREAS, the ability of the public to identify law enforcement officers acting in an official capacity is a fundamental principle of transparency and accountability in a democratic society; and

WHEREAS, the concealment of identity by agents of the federal government during civilian enforcement actions is inconsistent with the standards expected of law enforcement in a free and open society, and echoes the tactics of authoritarian regimes rather than those of a constitutional republic; and

WHEREAS, there have been documented reports of individuals impersonating ICE and other federal law enforcement officers to commit robberies, assaults, and other crimes, demonstrating that the use of masked, unidentified agents creates a serious and tangible public safety risk; and

WHEREAS, the Dutchess County Legislature recognizes that immigrant and non-immigrant communities alike are living in fear as a result of enforcement actions carried out by masked, unidentified agents, causing residents to withdraw from public life and avoid seeking essential services, including healthcare, education, and access to the courts; and

WHEREAS, the ability of individuals to seek legal recourse for misconduct by law enforcement officers is severely hampered when those officers cannot be identified, effectively shielding agents from accountability for their actions; and

PUBLIC SAFETY

WHEREAS, the MELT Act includes reasonable exemptions for legitimate safety needs, including medical-grade masks, protective gear for fire and smoke, water rescue equipment, cold weather protection during declared emergencies, and tactical face coverings for SWAT operations; and

WHEREAS, the State of California has already enacted comparable legislation prohibiting the masking of law enforcement officers, including federal immigration agents, during civilian enforcement operations, demonstrating that such protections are legally and practically achievable; and

WHEREAS, the allocation of tens of billions of dollars in new federal funding to expand ICE operations makes the need for robust transparency and accountability measures all the more urgent; and

WHEREAS, the MELT Act reflects the foundational democratic principle that when government exercises power over the people, the people have the right to know who is acting in their name;

WHEREAS, every level of government has a responsibility to protect the civil liberties, due process rights, and constitutional protections of all persons within its jurisdiction, regardless of immigration status; and

WHEREAS, Dutchess County holds a unique place in constitutional history as the site of New York State's ratification of the United States Constitution, and its elected officials are sworn to uphold principles of due process, accountability, transparency, and the rule of law; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Dutchess County Legislature hereby urges the New York State Senate and Assembly to approve New York Senate Bill S8462 and Assembly Bill A8908; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to New York State Governor Kathy Hochul, New York State Senators Michelle Hinchey and Rob Rolison, and New York State Assembly Members Sarahana Shrestha, Jonathan G. Jacobson, Anil Beephan, Jr., and Didi Barrett.

STATE OF NEW YORK

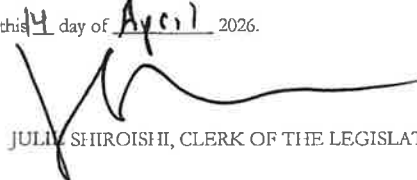
ss:

COUNTY OF DUTCHESS

This is to certify that I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Dutchess, have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution now on file in the office of said clerk, and which was adopted by said Legislature on the 13 day of April, 2026, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said original resolution and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of said Legislature this 14 day of April, 2026.




JULIA SHIROISHI, CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

☒ NO FISCAL IMPACT PROJECTED

APPROPRIATION RESOLUTIONS

(To be completed by requesting department)

Total Current Year Cost \$ _____

Total Current Year Revenue \$ _____
and Source

Source of County Funds (check one): ☐ Existing Appropriations, ☐ Contingency,
☐ Transfer of Existing Appropriations, ☐ Additional Appropriations, ☐ Other (explain).

Identify Line Items(s):

Related Expenses: Amount \$ _____
Nature/Reason:

Anticipated Savings to County: _____

Net County Cost (this year): _____
Over Five Years: _____

Additional Comments/Explanation:

Prepared by: Kristofer Munn Prepared On: 3/13/26

Public Safety Roll Call

<i>District</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
District 16 - Fishkill and Beacon	Valdés Smith*	X	
District 9 - City of Poughkeepsie	Atkins*	X	
District 20 - Red Hook, Tivoli, and Rhinebeck	Munn*	X	
District 3 - LaGrange	Polasek*		X
District 12 - East Fishkill	Metzger*		X
District 2 - LaGrange, Pleasant Valley & Town of Poughkeepsie	Arnoff	X	
District 11 - Clinton, Pleasant Valley, and Rhinebeck	Kearney	X	
District 15 - Wappinger	Faust		X
District 18 - City of Beacon and Fishkill	Rhodes	X	
District 19 - North East, Stanford, Pine Plains, Milan & Red Hook	Drago (VC)	X	
District 23 - Pawling, Beekman and East Fishkill	Rolison		X
District 25 - Amenia, Washington, Pleasant Valley & Millbrook	Alexander (C)	X	

Present: 12 **Resolution:** **Total :** 8 4
Absent: **Motion:** **Yes** **No**
Vacant: **Abstentions:**

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Roll Call Sheets

District	Last Name	YES	NO	
District 16 - Fishkill and Beacon	Valdés Smith	X		
District 9 - City of Poughkeepsie	Atkins	X		
District 20 - Red Hook, Tivoli, and Rhinebeck	Munn	X		
District 3 - LaGrange	Polasek		X	
District 12 - East Fishkill	Metzger		X	
District 1 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Redl			Absent
District 2 - LaGrange, Pleasant Valley & Town of Poughkeepsie	Arnoff	X		
District 4 - Hyde Park and Town of Poughkeepsie	Lawler	X		
District 5 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Shah	X		
District 6 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Kaul	X		
District 7 - Hyde Park and Pleasant Valley	Darrow		X	
District 8 - City and Town of Poughkeepsie	Brendli	X		
District 10 - City of Poughkeepsie	Johnson		X	
District 11 - Clinton, Pleasant Valley, and Rhinebeck	Kearney	X		
District 13 - East Fishkill and Wappinger	Giles		X	
District 14 - Wappinger and Town of Poughkeepsie	Winsby	X		
District 15 - Wappinger	Faust			Absent
District 17 - Town and Village of Fishkill	McHoul		X	
District 18 - City of Beacon and Fishkill	Rhodes	X		
District 19 - North East, Stanford, Pine Plains, Milan & Red Hook	Drago	X		
District 21 - East Fishkill	Caswell			Absent
District 22 - Beekman and Union Vale	Tresca		X	
District 23 - Pawling, Beekman and East Fishkill	Rolison		X	
District 24 - Dover and Pawling	House		X	
District 25 - Amenia, Washington, Pleasant Valley & Millbrook	Alexander	X		
Present:	<u>22</u>	Resolution:	<u>2026058</u>	Total :
Absent:	<u>3</u>	Motion:	<u>Atkins, Munn</u>	<u>13</u>
Vacant:	<u>0</u>			<u>9</u>
			Yes	No
			Abstentions:	<u> </u>

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District 20 - Red Hook, Tivoli, and Rhinebeck	Munn	X	
District 3 - LaGrange	Polasek		X
District 12 - East Fishkill	Metzger		X
District 1 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Redl		ABSENT
District 2 - LaGrange, Pleasant Valley & Town of Poughkeepsie	Arnoff	X	
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District 5 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Shah	X	
District 6 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Kaul	X	
District 7 - Hyde Park and Pleasant Valley	Darrow		X
District 8 - City and Town of Poughkeepsie	Brendli	X	
District 10 - City of Poughkeepsie	Johnson		X
District 11 - Clinton, Pleasant Valley, and Rhinebeck	Kearney	X	
District 13 - East Fishkill and Wappinger	Giles		X
District 14 - Wappinger and Town of Poughkeepsie	Winsby	X	
District 15 - Wappinger	Faust		ABSENT
District 17 - Town and Village of Fishkill	McHoul		X
District 18 - City of Beacon and Fishkill	Rhodes	X	
District 19 - North East, Stanford, Pine Plains, Milan & Red Hook	Drago	X	
District 21 - East Fishkill	Caswell		ABSENT
District 22 - Beekman and Union Vale	Tresca		X
District 23 - Pawling, Beekman and East Fishkill	Rolison		X
District 24 - Dover and Pawling	House		X
District 25 - Amenia, Washington, Pleasant Valley & Millbrook	Alexander	X	
Present: <u>22</u>	Resolution: ____	Total : <u>13</u>	<u>9</u>
Absent: <u>3</u>	Motion: ____	Yes	No
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