

RESOLUTION NO. 77

DIRECTING AN OUTSIDE AGENCY TO CONDUCT AIR QUALITY TEST OF THE ALBANY COUNTY NURSING HOME

Introduced: 2/11/08

By Mss. Lockart, Benedict, Messrs. Carman, Clouse, Hoblock, Mendick, Tunny and Zeilman:

WHEREAS, Albany County is obligated to provide the elderly residents of Albany County who reside at our nursing home secure, healthy, and environmentally safe conditions in which to live, and

WHEREAS, Albany County is also obligated to provide these same conditions for all visitors and the employees who provide care to the residents of the Albany County Nursing Home, and

WHEREAS, The Albany County Nursing Home Family Council has brought to this Honorable Body's attention that there is an issue with mold in the Albany County Nursing Home, specifically within the E Unit, and

WHEREAS, According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) "potential health effects and symptoms associated with mold exposures include allergic reactions, asthma, and other respiratory complaints", and

WHEREAS, Many residents at the Albany County Nursing Home have weakened immune systems and according to the EPA, "mold exposure may result in opportunistic infections in persons whose immune systems are weakened or suppressed", and

WHEREAS, The Albany County Nursing Home Family Council has received complaints about air quality at the nursing home, and

WHEREAS, The Albany County Nursing Home Family Council, in light of discovery of mold and continuing complaints about the air quality, has reasonably requested the Director of the Nursing Home to conduct air quality testing, and

WHEREAS, The Director of the Nursing Home has refused this entirely appropriate and reasonable request to determine if the health and safety of the residents are at risk, and

WHEREAS, This Honorable Body takes the health, safety and welfare of our residents and staff seriously, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That there will be air quality tests done throughout the Albany County Nursing Home by an outside agency of the to determine that the Albany County Nursing Home is safe for our residents, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the air quality tests will be done within 30 days of the passage of this resolution, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the results of the tests will be provided to the Majority and Minority leaders of this Body, and, be it further

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

On roll call vote the following voted in favor: Mr. Aylward, Ms. Benedict, Messrs. Carman, Clouse, Ethier, Hoblock, Ms. Lockart, Messrs. Mendick, Tunny and Zeilman – 10.

Those opposed: Messrs. Beston, Bullock, Ms. Chapman, Messrs. Clay, Clenahan, Commisso, Ms. Connolly, Messrs. Cotrofeld, Dawson, Domalewicz, Gordon, Higgins, Horstmyer, Houghtaling, Infante, Joyce, Ms. Maffia-Tobler, Messrs. Mayo, McCoy, Ms. McKnight, Messrs. Morse, Nichols, Scavo, Steck, Timmins, Ward and Ms. Willingham – 27.

Resolution was defeated. 2/11/08