

RESOLUTION NO. 54

**REQUESTING THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT
SENATE BILL NO. 548/ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 1517 ESTABLISHING A
WIRELESS SURCHARGE FOR ALBANY COUNTY**

Introduced: 2/9/09

By Audit and Finance Committee:

WHEREAS, The Albany County Executive and the Sheriff have requested adoption of a home rule message to the New York State Legislature seeking authority for implementation of a 30 cent monthly surcharge on wireless phone service for Albany County subscribers to support the County's E-911 service, and

WHEREAS, The Executive and Sheriff indicated that the surcharge would add an estimated \$500,000 in revenue to the 2009 Albany County Budget, assuming full implementation by August 2009, and would level the playing field among phone subscribers, and

WHEREAS, Currently only land-line telephone customers fund the E-911 system that is used increasingly by wireless subscribers as the number of people and households who depend solely on wireless phones have increased at a rate of about 3-4% a year to 17.1% as of June 2008, and

WHEREAS, If the proposal is authorized by the State Legislature and enacted by local law, Albany County would join about 40 other counties in the state which have similar wireless phone service surcharges in place, and

WHEREAS, Currently, bills entitled, "AN ACT to amend the county law, in relation to establishing a wireless surcharge for Albany county" are before both houses of the New York State Legislature; in the Assembly, Bill A.1517; and in the Senate, Bill S.548, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the Albany County Legislature, pursuant to Article IX of the New York State Constitution and Section 2 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, that the County Legislature hereby requests the enactment of legislation by the Legislature of the State of New York as contained in Assembly Bill A.1517 and Senate Bill S.548, and, be it further

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

On roll call vote the following voted in favor: Mr. Aylward, Ms. Benedict, Messrs. Bullock, Carman, Ms. Chapman, Messrs. Clay, Clenahan, Clouse,

Commisso, Cotrofeld, Domalewicz, Gordon, Higgins, Horstmyer, Houghtaling, Infante, Joyce, Ms. Maffia-Tobler, Messrs. Mayo, McCoy, Morse, Nichols, Rahm, Steck, Timmins, Tunny, Ward and Ms. Willingham – 28.

Those opposed: Messrs. Dawson, Ethier, Hoblock, Ms. Lockart, Messrs. Mendick, Scavo and Zeilman – 7.

Resolution was adopted. 2/9/09