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RESOLUTION NO. 082

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING GOVERNOR HOCHUL'S BAN OF GAS STOVES
AND OTHER NEW FOSSIL FUEL HEATING EQUIPMENT**

By Legislator David Holst:

WHEREAS, Governor Hochul's State-of-the-State address contained a proposal to prohibit the sale of new fossil fuel powered heating systems by 2030 for smaller buildings and by 2035 for larger building; and

WHEREAS, Governor Hochul is further calling for zero-emission new construction, with no on-site fossil fuel combustion by 2025 for small buildings and by 2028 for larger buildings; and

WHEREAS, President Biden and the White House have come out against any prohibition of gas stoves; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's ban is intended to help address climate change, but this government mandate is more of a burden on our region's working-class residents and will have a devastating effect on restaurants, businesses, and manufacturing facilities when they must convert to all electric; and

WHEREAS, the cost to convert a house to electric will result in a cost between \$20,000-\$50,000 per household and would not include any kind of backup system in the event of a power outage; and

WHEREAS, the conversion to electric will create unnecessary financial burden and hardship for businesses that compete on a national or global level; and

WHEREAS, the ban will push businesses out of the state and will contribute to accelerated population loss for those that are fed up with high taxes, the high cost of living, unreasonable government mandates, reckless spending by the government, and unrealistic environmental mandates not consistent with our geographic region; and

WHEREAS, a ban on natural gas appliances and water heaters is not feasible for large portions of New York with harsh winter weather and an exposed electrical infrastructure; appliances used to heat water and cook food need to work during power outages especially during times of inclement weather; and

WHEREAS, current technology, that is expected to replace gas appliances, such as space heating, does not work well in our climate; this fact was noted in the recent Climate Action Council's report which proposed requiring two heating sources for New York residents who live in areas that are frequently too cold; and

WHEREAS, electrical appliances have more moving parts and are expensive to maintain and repair; and

WHEREAS, all electric appliances have been shown to be less efficient and therefore cost more to generate the same amount of heat than natural gas fed appliances; and

WHEREAS, mandating the purchase of electrical appliances is an unnecessary

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burden we are placing on families across New York State at a time when the cost of living has significantly outpaced wage growth; and

WHEREAS, with the higher costs, energy bills will go through the roof for residents, further exacerbating the recent price spikes in food, transportation, and general merchandise; and

WHEREAS, as we have seen with California's recent push to make everything electric, this government mandate will likely lead to an increased strain on our state's electrical grid leading to black outs and rationing, which is especially dangerous with the winter weather we routinely experience; and

WHEREAS, the costs to bury power lines, increase renewable energy infrastructure, and increase the capacity of transformers will be passed on directly to consumers in the form of increased energy costs; and

WHEREAS, individual homes, especially those in older housing stock like Oswego County, will be forced to conduct costly in-home electrical panel upgrades to accommodate the increased demand from their appliances; and

WHEREAS, the ban on fossil-fuel powered heating equipment and appliances will cause severe hardship on the residents and businesses within Oswego County and Upstate York; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Oswego County Legislature hereby vehemently opposes the Governor's plan to ban natural gas heating and appliances as not feasible or warranted for Oswego County and much of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Oswego County Legislature hereby strongly urges Governor Hochul and the New York State Legislature to fully examine the real life impact their discussions will have for all New Yorkers, especially those least able to afford them; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature is to forward certified copies of this resolution to Governor Hochul, Assembly Minority Leader Will Barclay, State Senator John Mannion, State Senator Mark Walczyk, and the New York State Association of Counties.

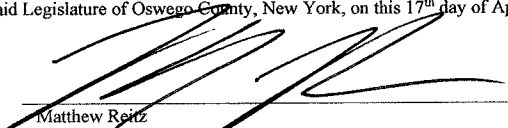
ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE ON APRIL 13, 2023:

YES: 20 NO: 0 ABSENT: 4 VACANT: 1 ABSTAIN: 0

STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF OSWEGO) ss:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT I, MATTHEW REITZ, Deputy Clerk of the Oswego County Legislature have compared the foregoing copy with the original resolution now on file in my office which was adopted by the Oswego County Legislature on April 13, 2023

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of the said Legislature of Oswego County, New York, on this 17th day of April 2023.


Matthew Reitz
Deputy Clerk of the Oswego County Legislature