

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION
MINUTES: October 15, 2007

LEGISLATION

MEMBERS:

Chair: Pinto; Legislators: Bronz, Jenkins, Burrows, Young

IN ATTENDANCE:

CE: B. Randolph, **CA:** L. Trentacoste, L. Cipollo; **Budget:** A. Reasoner; **Tax:** D. Jackson; **BOL:** S. Bass, N. Rentz, M. Amodio, C. Crane, L. Goldstein, L. Siegel

With a quorum present, the Committee on Legislation was called to order at 1:34 p.m.

BICYCLE HELMET LAW

There was a public hearing held at the last County Board meeting on this legislation. Chairman Pinto stated that he is soliciting opinions from other communities by email. The Town of Greenburgh and Rockland County currently has this law on the books. There are bike trails that cross municipal borders. The Chair would like the Committee on Public Safety to join them for a future discussion on this issue.

SALES TAX EXEMPTION FOR SOLAR SYSTEM EQUIPMENT

The Law Department, the Tax Commissioner, and the Budget Director discussed the proposed law with the committee.

Ms. Trentacoste of the law department stated that this was passed by New York State in 2005 for counties to opt into. She needed to make sure we were following the proper form and proper effective date which was set up in the State Law. There is also a tax issue with the four cities in Westchester County. It often happens with the county decides to utilize one of these types of tax exemptions because we share in and split the amount of the maximum sales tax. When Westchester forgoes its portion of the taxes there is an automatic pop up provision. Despite the fact that we wouldn't take the tax it would still have to go to the cities.

Ms. Reasoner stated she thought it was almost impossible to quantify what the impact will be on individuals and on the county. It was estimated that it would cost an individual about \$40,000 for a solar system.

At the request of committee members, Chairman Pinto directed the County Attorney to include in the legislation a two year sunset clause and if the legislature decides to extend the law they must do so by a date certain. The County attorney will research to see if state law permits such a provision.

(Burrows, Young) Move to adjourn the Committee on Legislation.
Motion passed 5-0. Committee on Legislation adjourned at 2:09 P.M.

AUDIO RECORDING ON FILE FOR REVIEW UPON REQUEST