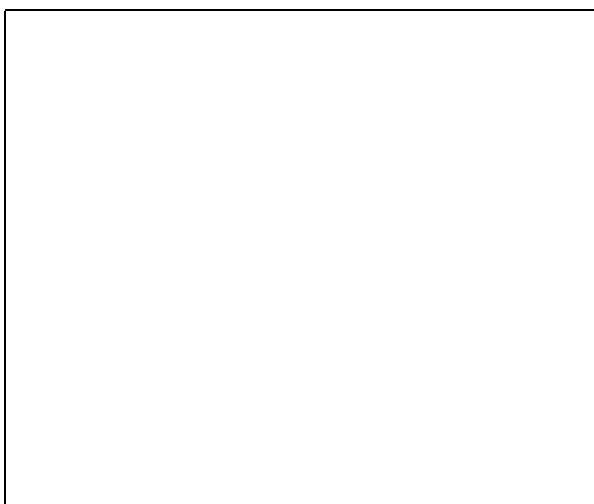


Friday, September 23, 2016

Newburgh, NY
55°F Clear
wü WEATHER UNDERGROUND

[Click for weather forecast](#)

[HOME](#)



CLICK FOR OUR OUTAGE MAP

Orange & Rockland

EVERYTHING MATTERS

f t



Lawmakers urge governor to sign annexation oversight bill

CHESTER – Under current state law, county governments do not have a formal role in the review process for local annexations, unless an annexation would change a county boundary.

Legislation introduced by Assemblyman James Skoufis (D-99) would allow county planning departments to review these annexation petitions pursuant to existing law, a process that already exists for many municipal planning and zoning actions. Following a complete review of the petition, the county would send a recommendation to municipalities. Should a municipality wish to override the county’s recommendation and proceed with their plan, a supermajority vote by each affected municipal board would be required.



Skoufis: "This issue has not gone away..."

Despite a petition of support, signed by 10,000 residents, bipartisan bill was vetoed by Gov. Andrew Cuomo last year.

It was reintroduced by Skoufis, and Senator William Larkin (R-39), passed in both houses, and is once again back on Cuomo's desk.

"This issue has not gone away and, as long as I'm a state representative, my bill will not go away, no matter how much special interests may want it to," Skoufis said. "I implore the Governor to reconsider last year's veto and sign this important legislation into law."

The assemblyman acknowledged the measure is specifically precipitated by what is happening in and around Kiryas Joel.

Joining Skoufis at a news briefing outside his Chester office were several local officials, attorneys and Dr. Gerald Benjamin, of SUNY New Paltz.

Benjamin, saying he was speaking for himself, accused the governor of a "double standard" by pushing through questionable acts that benefit particular interests while a constitutionally acceptable act is vetoed.

Copyright © 2016 Mid-Hudson News Network, a division of Statewide News Network, Inc.

This story may not be reproduced in any form, by any media, without express written consent.

This includes rewriting, broadcasting and/or printing of material from MidHudsonNews.com, by websites, radio and television stations, newspapers or other media



Tweet



1



HEAR today's news on MidHudsonRadio.com, the Hudson Valley's *only* Internet radio news report.

HOME