



Preservation League of NYS

September 20, 2019

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo,

The Preservation League of New York State is New York's statewide historic preservation organization. We advocate for the protection of historic buildings and landscapes in all sixty-two counties and assist in advancing historic preservation and community development efforts.

I write today to respectfully request you sign into law the **Ulster County Community Preservation Act (A0129/S6235)** and the **Town of Chester Community Preservation Act (A7592/S5640)**.

The Preservation League is a proponent of Community Preservation Funds (CPF) which can provide for the safeguarding of historic buildings and landscapes that are a special feature of all communities. The modest real estate transfer tax (paid by buyers) is key to enabling municipalities to further open space, farmland, and historic preservation goals. This investment will result in the ability to maintain community assets that are irreplaceable.

Historic buildings and landscapes are important to the sense of place of many communities. However, due to budget constraints, many municipalities simply cannot afford to expend funds to actively protect such places. The use of Community Preservation Funds can assist with preserving and improving a community's character and quality of life.

Thank you for your consideration of signing into law the **Ulster County Community Preservation Act (A0129/S6235)** and **Town of Chester Community Preservation Act (A7592/S5640)**, which will assist in community development, revitalization, and safeguarding of historic buildings and landscapes including farmland.

Sincerely,

Erin M. Tobin
Vice President for Policy and Preservation

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