

WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

MINUTES: June 2, 2008

MEMBERS (E&E): Chair: Abinanti; Legislators: Harckham, Kaplowitz, Maisano, Myers, Nonna, Oros, Rogowsky

IN ATTENDANCE: STAFF: J. Sold; GUESTS: E. Pepper (CCE), B. Lawyer, L. Jones, C. Manfredi; N. Baage (Record Review)

Environment & Energy Committee meeting called to order at 3:50 pm.

Item(s) Discussed: **Proposed Legislation to Restrict Idling of Vehicles**

Chair Abinanti initiated committee review of the proposed anti-idling legislation. Leg. Nonna noted that temperature extremes (either cold or heat) may warrant an exemption for these extremes. Leg. Oros stated that school buses can have comfort concerns for schoolchildren, especially during cold weather. Mr. Lawyer and Ms. Sold noted their discussions with school representatives or officials indicating school buses may not need consistent idling to maintain comfort. Upon further discussion, the committee members concluded further review on temperature would be helpful.

The Committee reviewed provisions of the legislation, including statute definitions, applicability of a temperature exemption to automobiles versus buses, applicability of provisions to hybrid vehicles, and enforcement. Mr. Lawyer suggested an education program to inform the public on the law's provisions as well as the health and environmental benefits of reduced idling. Leg. Abinanti noted funding might be added during the annual Budget review to accomplish education. Leg. Rogowsky said that a fiscal impact statement and environmental review (SEQR) should be prepared to accompany the legislation.

Upon the motion of Leg. Harckham, seconded by Leg. Myers, the Committee approved the legislation for all purposes (all in favor; Nonna w/out prejudice). Upon the motion of Leg. Harkcham, seconded by Leg. Myers, the Committee voted to adjourn (all in favor). The meeting concluded at approximately 4:55 pm.

[An audio recording of this meeting is on file]