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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ulster County Legislator Jason J. Kovacs Issues Statement on 2025 Budget Vote

KINGSTON, NY – Jason J. Kovacs, Republican/Conservative Ulster County Legislator for District 3 (Towns of Kingston, Saugerties, and Ulster) announced today that he voted in favor of the 2025 Ulster County budget, citing the importance of funding critical government functions, but expressed significant concerns about the budget’s shortcomings, particularly the lack of tax relief and salary increases for county legislators.

“I believe it is my responsibility to ensure that Ulster County government has the resources it needs to provide essential services to our residents,” said Legislator Kovacs. “However, I cannot overlook the missed opportunities in this budget. At a time when many families are grappling with economic challenges, it is disappointing that we failed to deliver meaningful tax cuts to provide relief to our constituents.”

Kovacs also voiced opposition to the inclusion of salary increases for Ulster County legislators in the budget. “While public service is a critical and demanding role, I do not believe it is appropriate to approve 11% raises for ourselves in this economic climate,” he stated. “As legislators, our focus should be on easing the financial burdens of the residents we serve, not on increasing our own compensation.”

Despite these concerns, Legislator Kovacs emphasized the importance of passing a budget to avoid disruption to vital county operations. “This budget contains funding for many essential programs and services that our community relies on, and I could not in good conscience vote to jeopardize their continuity,” he explained.

Kovacs reaffirmed his commitment to advocating for fiscal responsibility and transparency in government. “Moving forward, I will continue to push for policies that prioritize the needs of Ulster County residents, including responsible tax policies and a focus on ensuring that government spending aligns with our community’s priorities,” he concluded.