

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

Report No. 4

OGDENSBURG CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK

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**SUBJECT:** A Resolution in Support of Senate Bill S4810 and Assembly Bill A5276 That Allows for the Taxation of State Property Located in the City of Ogdensburg

**Date:** May 2, 2023

**FACTS AND ANALYSIS:**

**WHEREAS**, over 60% of the value of real estate in the City of Ogdensburg is exempt from taxation, and

**WHEREAS**, the single largest tax-exempt land holder in the City of Ogdensburg is the State of New York, and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New York owns 30% (See Attachment A and Map) of the land area in the City of Ogdensburg, and

**WHEREAS**, the assessed value of New York State's holdings is over \$200,000,000, and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New York owns over 50% (See Attached Map) of all the St. Lawrence River waterfront lands in the City of Ogdensburg, and

**WHEREAS**, these tax exemptions severely hamper the city's ability to provide governmental services, including public safety, without exceeding its constitutional taxing limit or raising local real property taxes in a city that already has one of the highest combined tax rates in New York State, and

**WHEREAS**, these exemptions for New York State owned properties exceed \$8,200,000 in lost revenue to the city, county and school district, and multi-millions of more dollars in lost revenue each year due to their underutilized, blighted, and deteriorating conditions, and the fact that they comprise over 50% of the city's valuable St. Lawrence River waterfront, hampering future private sector growth and development, and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New York makes PILOT payments to other municipalities in the State in recognition of their tax-exempt status, including Albany, New York which receives over \$22 million annually in PILOT payments from the State of New York.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER**

**RESOLVED** that the Ogdensburg City School District Board of Education supports and encourages the State Legislature to adopt Senate Bill S4810 and Assembly Bill A5276 during the 2023 Legislative Session, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that these PILOT payments will be earmarked for public safety and other governmental functions in the Ogdensburg City School District, services which are presently provided free to the State of New York at local taxpayer expense, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution be sent via certified mail to Governor Kathy Hochul, State Senator Mark Walczyk, Assemblyman Scott Gray, New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart Cousins, New York State Senate Minority Leader Robert G. Ort, New York State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, New York State Assembly Minority Leader William A. Barclay, New York State Senate Local Government Chair Monica R. Martinez, New York State Assembly Real Property Taxation Chair Jaime R. Williams, New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli, and the New York State Prison Redevelopment Commission.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and supported by \_\_\_\_\_ that, having the approval of the Superintendent of Schools, The Ogdensburg City School District Board of Education supports of Senate Bill S4810 and Assembly Bill A5276 that allows for the taxation of State Property located in the City of Ogdensburg on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2023.

  
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Superintendent