



**WHEREAS, there are a variety of programs from counseling and skill-building to wraparound services and restorative justice approaches that can help with the diversion of youth offenders from the criminal justice system to a promising and productive future, and**

**WHEREAS, these diversion programs aim to give youth offenders a second chance and earn the opportunity to have their records sealed, and**

**WHEREAS, a goal of these programs is to prevent youth offenders from becoming repeat offenders and allow them to learn from their mistakes, strengthening their opportunities for future success, and increasing public safety, and**

**WHEREAS, according to a report entitled, “Best Practices in Youth Diversion” from The Institute for Innovation & Implementation at the University of Maryland School of Social Work, diversion programs reduce the stigma surrounding being involved in the justice system and improve relationships between the youth, the community, and the police, and**

**WHEREAS, such programs are known to reduce court caseloads and justice system costs, and**

**WHEREAS, there are successful programs here in Dutchess and throughout the state including in neighboring Ulster County with their Restorative Justice and Community Empowerment Center, and**

**WHEREAS, the further implementation of strong, effective, and evidence-based youth restorative justice programs would be a valuable asset for Dutchess County, now, therefore, be it**

**RESOLVED, that the County Legislature requests a feasibility study to determine which youth restorative justice programs would be most effective and beneficial for our struggling and at-risk youth in Dutchess County, and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, that this feasibility study be completed and released ten weeks from when this resolution goes into effect.**

The foregoing motion was unanimously adopted.

The foregoing resolution was unanimously adopted by the Family & Human Services Committee.

## **2020147 APPOINTMENTS TO THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

On motion by Majority Leader Bolner, duly seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Metzger, the foregoing resolution was unanimously adopted by the Family and Human Services Committee.

**2020148 CONFIRMING APPOINTMENTS TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

On motion by Majority Leader Bolner, duly seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Metzger, the foregoing resolution was unanimously adopted by the Family and Human Services Committee.

**2020149 APPOINTMENTS TO THE MENTAL HYGIENE BOARD**

On motion by Majority Leader Bolner, duly seconded by Minority Leader Edwards, the foregoing resolution was unanimously adopted by the Family and Human Services Committee.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.