

## NEWS

# RENSSELAER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Office of the Minority 270-2892

Minority Leader Ginny O'Brien: 434-3347 Deputy Minority Leader Keith Hammond: 283-3329  
Flora Fasoldt: 466-1703 Peter Grimm: 273-1500 Kevin Harrington: 330-9114 Brian Zweig: 326-3980  
[www.rensselaercountygov.com](http://www.rensselaercountygov.com)

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### **Rensselaer County Committee on Open Government Moves to Institute Electronic Filing**

**Troy**— The Open Government Committee of the Rensselaer County Legislature convened Wednesday, March 18, to consider the implementation of a resolution sponsored by Legislator Flora Fasoldt and the Democratic Minority calling for the electronic filing of resolutions. The bipartisan committee agreed on a plan that will utilize existing technology more effectively and help streamline the filing process.

“I was pleased that there was bipartisan support for electronic filing. It is one way to improve efficiency at no cost to the taxpayer. We should be able to cut down on the use of paper, saving both money and resources. This is a first step: we hope it will be a precedent for other uses of technology to reduce the cost of government,” commented Legislator Flora Fasoldt (D-Sand Lake, Schodack, Nassau)

“In addition to greater efficiency, filing electronically will also make information more readily available to legislators,” added Minority Leader Ginny O’Brien (D- East Greenbush, North Greenbush, Poestenkill). “We will be able to search files and retrieve information more easily than by rummaging through reams of paper files and we can exchange information almost instantaneously.”

The National Association of Counties (NACo), which sponsors the Digital Counties Award each year, advocates the innovative use of technology as an essential component of effective, efficient government. With the mandate to do more with less at all levels of government, these technological solutions provide new ways to conduct the business of government and deliver services while conserving resources and taxpayer dollars.