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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LEGISLATOR JASON KOVACS AUTHORS AND SECURES PASSAGE OF LOCAL LAW NO. 8 TO END MID-TERM PAY RAISES

KINGSTON, NY — Legislator Jason Kovacs (R–Town of Ulster) announced today that his legislation, Local Law No. 8 of 2025, has been approved by the Ulster County Legislature. The law ensures that any future changes to legislators’ salaries will only take effect after the current legislative term ends, preventing lawmakers from immediately benefiting from their own votes.

“This reform is about restoring trust,” said Legislator Kovacs. “Earlier this year, when legislators approved mid-term pay raises, the public was rightfully outraged. Local Law No. 8 makes sure that never happens again. It is a simple, commonsense safeguard rooted in ethics and transparency.”

The law mirrors longstanding policies followed by Congress, the New York State Legislature, and Albany County. It also enjoyed overwhelming public support—at the public hearing on the law, every speaker, including former Legislative Chairman David Donaldson, a Democrat, urged passage.

“Ethics and accountability are not partisan issues,” added Kovacs. “By passing this law, we’ve shown that Ulster County can rise above politics and put integrity first.”

Local Law No. 8 now goes to the County Executive for approval.