STATE OF NEW YORK

11735

IN ASSEMBLY

September 16, 2026

Introduced by COMMITTEE ON RULES -- (at request of M. of A. Steck) -- read once and referred to the Committee on Economic Development

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to the membership of the Albany Pine Bush preserve commission; and to authorize the city of Schenectady, county of Schenectady, to discontinue the use as parkland and transfer control of the Woodlawn Preserve to the Albany Pine Bush preserve commission;

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Subject to the provisions of this act, the city of Schenectady, county of Schenectady, acting by and through its governing body, is hereby authorized to discontinue the use as parkland and transfer the lands known as the Woodlawn Preserve to the Albany Pine Bush preserve commission to be made part of the Albany Pine Bush preserve and to be under the control of the Albany Pine Bush preserve commission pursuant to the powers and duties of such commission as designated in article forty-six of the environmental conservation law.

§ 2. In the event that the city of Schenectady received any funding support or assistance from the federal government for the purchase, maintenance or improvement of the parklands set forth in section one of this act, the discontinuance and alienation of such parklands authorized by the provisions of this act shall not occur until the city of Schenectady has complied with any federal requirements pertaining to the alienation or conversion of parklands, including satisfying the secretary of the interior that the alienation or conversion complies with all conditions which the secretary of the interior deems necessary to assure the substitution of other lands shall be equivalent in fair market value and usefulness to the lands being alienated or converted.

§ 3. Subdivision 1 of section 46-0105 of the environmental conservation law, as amended by chapter 167 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read as follows:

1. The Albany Pine Bush preserve commission is hereby established in the department to be a body corporate and public and to consist of [~~eleven~~] **twelve** voting members who shall be as follows: the commission-

EXPLANATION--Matter in ***italics*** (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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er, the commissioner of the state office of parks, recreation and historic preservation, the mayor of the city of Albany, **the mayor of the city of Schenectady,** the town supervisors of the towns of Colonie and Guilderland, the chief executive officer of the county of Albany, the state director of the New York field office of the nature conservancy and four members to be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The four appointed private citizen members of the commission shall be by training, education, experience or attainment qualified to analyze or interpret or support matters relevant to the protection, maintenance and/or management of the Albany Pine Bush. Each of the [~~seven~~] **eight** ex-officio members may designate a representative to attend, in [~~his or her~~] **such member's** place, meetings of the commission and to act in [~~his or her~~] **such member's** behalf. The Governor shall designate the [~~chairman~~] **chair**. The term of office of the four private citizen members shall be four years. In the event of a vacancy occurring other than by the expiration of a member's term, such vacancy shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment. A majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately.