STATE OF NEW YORK

6890

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 18, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. COOK -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. COLTON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Local Governments

AN ACT to amend the general municipal law, in relation to requiring a written notice, prior to changing the level of fire services provided in cities having a population of one million or more

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

Section 1. The legislature hereby finds and determines that fire protection is one of the most significant and vital municipal services provided to the citizens of the state. Any proposed action by municipal officers which threatens to alter the manner or level of delivery of fire services ought to be on notice to the community since it is quite often of significant concern to the affected community.

In order to enable the community to have sufficient public discussion through the use of existing community boards and their established ability to effectively notify the members of the community and to conduct public hearings on the proposal, the within provisions are enacted.

§ 2. The general municipal law is amended by adding a new section 209-h to read as follows:

§ 209-h. Reduction of fire services in certain municipalities; prior notice required. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of any general, special or local law, or rule or regulation to the contrary, the fire commissioner of any fire department in cities having a population of one million or more shall not substantially alter the boundaries of fire companies, once fixed, close a borough fire communications office, remove or dismantle a fire alarm box, or close, remove, or relocate a fire company unless at least thirty days prior to the taking effect of such action written notice thereof has been given to each local community board or boards having jurisdiction over that part of the city directly affected by such proposed action or service reduction.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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