

181

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

(PREFILED)

January 7, 2009

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Introduced by Sen. VOLKER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government

AN ACT to amend the general municipal law, in relation to members and powers of intergovernmental relations councils

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. Section 239-n of the general municipal law, as amended by  
2 chapter 728 of the laws of 1961, the section heading, the opening para-  
3 graph and paragraph a of subdivision 1 and subdivisions 2 and 3 as  
4 amended and paragraph h of subdivision 1 as added by chapter 203 of the  
5 laws of 1983, paragraphs f and g of subdivision 1 as amended and para-  
6 graph e of subdivision 1 as added by chapter 96 of the laws of 1962 and  
7 paragraphs i, j and k of subdivision 1 as added by chapter 605 of the  
8 laws of 1993, is amended to read as follows:

9     S 239-n. Intergovernmental relations councils. 1. Any county outside  
10 the city of New York, city, town, village, school district, board of  
11 cooperative educational services, [or] fire district OR PUBLIC BENEFIT  
12 CORPORATION or any combination thereof, may create by agreement an  
13 intergovernmental relations council to strengthen local governments and  
14 to promote efficient and economical provision of [local governmental]  
15 PUBLIC services within or by such participating [municipalities]  
16 MEMBERS, and to that end such council shall have power to:

17     a. Make surveys and studies and conduct research programs to aid in  
18 the solution of local governmental problems and in efforts to improve  
19 administration and services.

20     b. Provide for the distribution of information resulting from such  
21 surveys, studies and programs.

22     c. Consult and cooperate with appropriate state, municipal and public  
23 or private agencies in matters affecting municipal government.

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

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1 d. Devise, RECOMMEND AND IMPLEMENT practical ways and means for  
2 obtaining greater economy and efficiency in the planning and provision  
3 of [municipal] PUBLIC services [and make recommendations in accordance  
4 therewith].

5 e. Promote the general commercial, industrial and cultural welfare of  
6 the participating [municipalities] MEMBERS.

7 f. Otherwise promote strong and effective local government, public  
8 health, safety, morals and general welfare by means of local and inter-  
9 community planning or performance of [municipal] PUBLIC services AND  
10 GOVERNMENTAL FUNCTIONS.

11 g. Employ such persons and adopt such rules and regulations as shall  
12 be necessary and proper to effectuate the purposes of this section.

13 h. Provide a forum for local governments to explore and develop areas  
14 for [municipal] cooperative activities pursuant to [article five-G of]  
15 this chapter.

16 i. Operate as a purchasing consortium, where authorized by participat-  
17 ing [municipalities] MEMBERS, for the purpose of obtaining economies  
18 through joint bidding and purchasing.

19 j. Purchase and make available to participating [municipalities]  
20 MEMBERS, where authorized by participating [municipalities] MEMBERS,  
21 goods [and], equipment AND SERVICES, including but not limited to  
22 computer hardware and software.

23 k. Gather and make available information on surplus goods and equip-  
24 ment for sale or lease.

25 2. The PARTICIPATING members of an intergovernmental relations council  
26 shall adopt by-laws to govern its activities and shall elect from their  
27 own number a [chairman] CHAIRPERSON and secretary and other necessary  
28 officers to serve for such period as the PARTICIPATING members shall  
29 decide.

30 3. The board of supervisors of a county, the appropriate officials of  
31 a city, the governing body of a school district, board of cooperative  
32 educational services or fire district, the board of trustees of a  
33 village, [or] the town board of a town OR THE MEMBERS OR BOARD OF A  
34 PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATION, is hereby authorized to include annually in  
35 the budget and raise by taxation in such county, city, school district,  
36 village or town a sum to meet all or an appropriate share of the actual  
37 and necessary expenses of establishing, maintaining and continuing such  
38 intergovernmental relations council.

39 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.