S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

6204--A

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

October 7, 2009

Introduced by Sen. C. JOHNSON -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules -- recommitted to the Committee on Local Government in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the general municipal law, in relation to the public oversight of special districts

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

Section 1. The general municipal law is amended by adding a new section 25 to read as follows:

S 25. PUBLIC OVERSIGHT OF SPECIAL DISTRICTS. 1. THE BUDGET FOR A SPECIAL DISTRICT SHALL BE MADE THE SUBJECT OF A PUBLIC HEARING BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE MUNICIPALITY THAT IS AUTHORIZED TO ADOPT IT, AND SHALL BE VOTED UPON BY SUCH GOVERNING BODY AT A PUBLIC MEETING.

2. SUCH BUDGET SHALL INCLUDE A STATEMENT OF ALL COMPENSATION, SALARIES AND BENEFITS OF ITS ADMINISTRATORS, SUPERVISORS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PROVIDERS UNDER EXISTING EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS OR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS.

3. SUCH BUDGET SHALL BE COMPLETED AT LEAST THIRTY DAYS BEFORE THE PUBLIC HEARING AT WHICH IT IS TO BE PRESENTED, OR EARLIER AS PROVIDED BY LAW, AND SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE, UPON REQUEST AND AT THE OFFICES OF THE SPECIAL DISTRICT AND MUNICIPALITY, AND AT ANY PUBLIC LIBRARY OR FREE ASSOCIATION LIBRARY WITHIN THE DISTRICT, AND ON THE INTERNET WEBSITES OF THE SPECIAL DISTRICT AND THE MUNICIPALITY, IF SUCH WEBSITES EXIST.

4. WHENEVER A GOVERNMENTAL AUDIT IS CONDUCTED OF A SPECIAL DISTRICT, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE MUNICIPALITY AUTHORIZED TO ADOPT THE BUDGET OF SUCH DISTRICT SHALL CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING TO REVIEW THE FINDINGS OF SUCH AUDIT WITHIN SIXTY DAYS OF THE PUBLIC RELEASE OF SUCH AUDIT BY THE GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY THAT CONDUCTED IT.

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

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5. THE CHIEF FISCAL OFFICERS OF A SPECIAL DISTRICT AND OF A MUNICIPALITY AUTHORIZED TO ADOPT ITS BUDGET SHALL BE PRESENT TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AT ANY HEARING CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

S 2. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall have become a law.