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

264--A

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

(PREFILED)

January 7, 2009

Introduced by Sens. LITTLE, STEWART-COUSINS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government -- 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 direct the law revision commission to make recommendations to the legislature concerning proposed revisions to the general city law, the town law, the county law, the village law, the general municipal law, the local finance law and any related statutes

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

Section 1. The legislature hereby finds and declares it to be the policy of the state that the present statutory structure of general laws that relate to local government have evolved in a disorganized manner, contain overlapping statutory provisions, contain outdated provisions that fail to meet the needs and goals presented by the challenges of the twenty-first century and that there is a need for a new state policy on local government organization. The last time any general law as it relates to local government was completely revised was the village law in 1972. The budgetary pressures placed on all forms of local government require a revision of the general powers that relate to the delivery of services to their citizens in a fair and financially responsible manner. In addition, the body of general laws that relate to local government, including but not limited to, the general city law, the town law, the county law, the village law, the general municipal law and the local finance law, is, in many instances, confusing to local public officers and the citizens of the state and contrary to the principles of simplicity, ease of administration, fairness and equity.

S 2. The law revision commission is hereby directed to:

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

LBD00266-03-0

(a) review all the general laws that relate to local government and the way they are administered to determine the effectiveness of such laws in achieving state policy goals, within the parameters of the municipal home rule law, and to further review such laws to achieve the objectives of simplicity, ease of administration, fairness and equity; and

(b) make recommendations to the legislature for such action, including proposed revision of such laws, as it determines is appropriate.

S 3. The law revision commission shall make a report to the governor and the legislature of its findings, conclusions, and recommendations no later than December 1, 2011, and shall submit with its report such legislative proposals as it deems necessary to implement its reports.

S 4. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall have become a law.