

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

6892--A

I N S E N A T E

February 23, 2010

Introduced by Sen. KRUEGER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Cities -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the municipal home rule law, in relation to promoting representative charter revision commissions in cities of one million or more

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

1 Section 1. Section 36 of the municipal home rule law is amended by
2 adding a new subdivision 4-a to read as follows:
3 4-A. THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBDIVISION APPLY TO CITIES OF ONE MILLION
4 OR MORE INHABITANTS. IN APPOINTING THE MEMBERS OF A COMMISSION PURSUANT
5 TO SUBDIVISION FOUR OF THIS SECTION, THE MAYOR SHALL CHOOSE AT LEAST THE
6 FOLLOWING MEMBERS NOMINATED BY LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS: ONE EACH BY THE
7 COMPTROLLER, BY THE PUBLIC ADVOCATE, AND BY THE BOROUGH PRESIDENTS
8 ACTING TOGETHER; AND ONE NOMINATED BY EACH OF THE BOROUGH DELEGATIONS TO
9 THE CITY COUNCIL. IN NOMINATING AND APPOINTING COMMISSION MEMBERS, THE
10 MAYOR AND LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS SHALL CHOOSE INDIVIDUALS FOR THEIR
11 INDEPENDENCE, INTEGRITY, AND EXPERIENCE IN CITY GOVERNMENT AND IN THE
12 SECTORS OF THE CITY AFFECTED BY CITY GOVERNMENT. NO MEMBER OF SUCH
13 COMMISSION MAY BE A CURRENT OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE OF THE CITY OR AN OFFI-
14 CER OF A POLITICAL PARTY OR A LOBBYIST REGISTERED WITH THE CITY OR AN
15 EMPLOYEE OF SUCH LOBBYIST, NOR MAY MEMBERS MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
16 CAMPAIGNS OF PERSONS HOLDING OR SEEKING PUBLIC OR PARTY ELECTED OFFICES
17 OR POSITIONS OF SUCH CITY DURING THEIR TENURE AS MEMBERS. COMMISSION
18 MEMBERS AND STAFF SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
19 PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER OR OTHER APPLICABLE LOCAL LAWS OF SUCH A CITY.
20 IF SUCH A COMMISSION IS CREATED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBDIVISION AFTER THE
21 FIFTEENTH DAY OF MAY OF ANY YEAR, SUCH COMMISSION MAY NOT PLACE ANY
22 PROPOSALS ON THE BALLOT UNTIL THE SUBSEQUENT CALENDAR YEAR FOLLOWING ITS
23 CREATION, UNLESS SUCH PROPOSALS ARE APPROVED BY THE LOCAL LEGISLATIVE
24 BODY AT LEAST NINETY DAYS PRIOR TO THAT YEAR'S GENERAL ELECTION.
25 PROPOSALS FOR SPECIFIC CHANGES TO THE CHARTER RECOMMENDED BY SUCH

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

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1 COMMISSION SHALL, TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PRACTICABLE, BE SEPARATELY IDEN-
2 TIFIED ON THE BALLOT FOR SEPARATE VOTER CONSIDERATION.

3 S 2. Subdivision 4 of section 36 of the municipal home rule law, as
4 amended by chapter 592 of the laws of 1964, is amended to read as
5 follows:

6 4. A charter commission to draft a new or revised city charter may
7 also be created by the mayor of any city. Such commission shall consist
8 of not less than nine nor more than fifteen members, EXCEPT THAT IN A
9 CITY WITH A POPULATION OF ONE MILLION OR MORE, SUCH COMMISSION SHALL
10 CONSIST OF NOT LESS THAN NINE NOR MORE THAN SEVENTEEN MEMBERS, all of
11 whom shall be residents of the city. Original appointments to such a
12 commission shall be made by the mayor by a certificate of appointment
13 which shall specify the number of, and names of, the members to consti-
14 tute [the] SUCH commission, which certificate shall be filed forthwith
15 with the city clerk. The chairman, vice-chairman and secretary shall be
16 appointed by the mayor from among the members of [the] SUCH commission.
17 Any vacancy in the membership of such a commission or of its officers
18 shall be filled by the mayor.

19 S 3. Paragraph (d) of subdivision 6 of section 36 of the municipal
20 home rule law, as amended by chapter 592 of the laws of 1964, is amended
21 to read as follows:

22 (d) [No] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION FOUR-A OF THIS SECTION, NO
23 person shall be disqualified to serve as a member, employee or consult-
24 ant of the commission by reason of holding any other public office or
25 employment, nor shall he forfeit any such office or employment by reason
26 of his appointment hereunder, notwithstanding the provisions of any
27 general, special or local law, ordinance or city charter.

28 S 4. This act shall take effect immediately, and shall be deemed to
29 have been in full force and effect on and after January 1, 2010, and
30 shall apply to any charter revision commission coming into existence on
31 or after January 1, 2010; provided that any charter revision commission
32 that is in existence prior to January 1, 2010 and which is not in
33 compliance with the provisions of this act is hereby terminated, and no
34 proposed new charter or amendment offered by such commission shall be
35 put to vote nor take effect.