

4729

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 7, 2011

Introduced by M. of A. REILLY -- read once and referred to the Committee
on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to eliminating term limits for regional fish and wildlife management boards

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

1 Section 1. Paragraph a of subdivision 4 of section 11-0501 of the
2 environmental conservation law, as amended by chapter 64 of the laws of
3 1987, is amended to read as follows:
4 a. A regional fish and wildlife management board shall be appointed in
5 each of the regions established under subdivision 3 of this section.
6 Such regional board shall consist of three members from each county
7 within the region which has appointed its members. In each county, one
8 member shall be a member of or represent the board of supervisors or
9 county legislative body, one member shall represent the landowners of
10 the county and one member shall represent the sportsmen of the county.
11 Such members from each county shall be appointed by the chairman of the
12 board of supervisors of such county with the approval of the board of
13 supervisors, except that in a county having a county president, a county
14 executive or other chief executive officer, the chief executive officer
15 shall appoint the members representing such county with the approval of
16 the board of supervisors of such county. In a county having an elected
17 legislative body the presiding officer shall appoint the members representing
18 such county with the approval of the legislative body. If there
19 is no presiding officer then the members representing such county shall
20 be appointed by the legislative body as a whole. If a member of the
21 board of supervisors or legislative body is not available to actively
22 participate on the fish and wildlife management board, a representative
23 shall be selected who is an elected county official or who is employed
24 by the county government in a position having administrative or managerial
25 authority. A landowner representative must actually reside upon

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

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1 rural lands within the county and actually be engaged in the operation
2 of such lands for production of agricultural commodities or forest
3 products. If a landowner representative with such qualifications is not
4 available to actively participate on the fish and wildlife management
5 board, a representative may be appointed who has been for at least five
6 of the past ten years, before commencing his first term in any series of
7 consecutive terms, engaged in such operation of rural lands, and who
8 resides within the county he represents. If no landowner representative
9 with either of these qualifications is available to actively participate
10 on the fish and wildlife management board a representative may be
11 appointed who is a resource manager engaged in such operations on rural
12 lands, and designated by the corporate owner of those lands to represent
13 the landowner's agricultural or silvicultural interests. In the case of
14 certain counties designated by the full state board with a scarcity of
15 rural lands operated for production of agricultural commodities or
16 forest products, the landowner representative shall own such rural lands
17 in New York state, whether or not those properties lie within the county
18 wherein he resides and represents. A sportsman representative must be a
19 resident of the county. The said chief executive officer, presiding
20 officer or legislative body shall receive and consider for appointment
21 as the landowner representative, the recommendations made by the county
22 farm bureau and Pomona grange, and for appointment as the sportsmen's
23 representative, the recommendations made by the county units of organ-
24 ized sportsmen's groups, AS WELL AS CONSIDERING THE ADVANTAGES OF NEW
25 REPRESENTATIVES. The term of office of regional board members shall be
26 two calendar years. A member shall be eligible [to succeed himself not
27 more than three times and shall thereafter be eligible for reappointment
28 only after one term out of office] FOR REAPPOINTMENT TO SUCCESSIVE TERMS
29 OF OFFICE WITHOUT LIMITATION WHERE OTHERWISE QUALIFIED. The term of the
30 sportsmen's representative and the board of supervisors or county legis-
31 lative body representative shall expire at the end of the odd numbered
32 years; the term of the landowner representative shall expire at the end
33 of the even numbered years. An alternate board of supervisors or county
34 legislative body representative, sportsmen's representative and landown-
35 er representative may also be appointed, who shall be available to serve
36 in the event of the temporary inability of the member sportsmen's repre-
37 sentative or member landowner representative or board of supervisors or
38 county legislative body representative to so function. A vacancy in
39 membership of a regional board shall be filled in the same manner as the
40 original appointment for the balance of the unexpired term during which
41 the vacancy occurs; if a supervisor member or county legislative body
42 member shall cease to be a supervisor or member of the legislative body
43 before the expiration of his term as a member of the regional board, a
44 successor shall be appointed for the unexpired balance of the term as a
45 member of the regional board. The chairman of the Board of Directors of
46 each soil and water conservation district and the chairman of each
47 regional forest practice board within the fish and wildlife management
48 region, or his or their representatives, shall be advisory members with-
49 out vote.

50 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.