

STATE OF NEW YORK

2937

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 28, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. ORTIZ -- read once and referred to the Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions

AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to the board of the metropolitan transportation authority; and in relation to the establishment of the metropolitan transit authority riders' council for persons with disabilities

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Subparagraphs 1 and 2 of paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of section 1263 of the public authorities law, subparagraph 1 as amended by section 3 of part H of chapter 25 of the laws of 2009 and subparagraph 2 as amended by chapter 549 of the laws of 1994, are amended to read as follows:

(1) There is hereby created the "metropolitan transportation authority." The authority shall be a body corporate and politic constituting a public benefit corporation. The authority shall consist of twenty-four members and shall include a [~~chairman~~] chairperson, sixteen other voting members, and [~~two~~] three non-voting and four alternate non-voting members, as described in subparagraph two of this paragraph appointed by the governor by and with the advice and consent of the senate. Any member appointed to a term commencing on or after June thirtieth, two thousand nine shall have experience in one or more of the following areas: transportation, public administration, business management, finance, accounting, law, engineering, land use, urban and regional planning, management of large capital projects, labor relations, or have experience in some other area of activity central to the mission of the authority. Four of the sixteen voting members other than the [~~chairman~~] chairperson shall be appointed on the written recommendation of the mayor of the city of New York; and each of seven other voting members other than the [~~chairman~~] chairperson shall be appointed after selection from a written list of three recommendations from the chief executive

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

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1 officer of the county in which the particular member is required to
2 reside pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision. Of the members
3 appointed on recommendation of the chief executive officer of a county,
4 one such member shall be, at the time of appointment, a resident of the
5 county of Nassau, one a resident of the county of Suffolk, one a resi-
6 dent of the county of Westchester, one a resident of the county of
7 Dutchess, one a resident of the county of Orange, one a resident of the
8 county of Putnam and one a resident of the county of Rockland, provided
9 that the term of any member who is a resident of a county that has with-
10 drawn from the metropolitan commuter transportation district pursuant to
11 section twelve hundred seventy-nine-b of this ~~[article]~~ title shall
12 terminate upon the effective date of such county's withdrawal from such
13 district. Of the five voting members, other than the ~~[chairman]~~ chair-
14 person, appointed by the governor without recommendation from any other
15 person, three shall be, at the time of appointment, residents of the
16 city of New York and two shall be, at the time of appointment, residents
17 of such city or of any of the aforementioned counties in the metropol-
18 itan commuter transportation district. The ~~[chairman]~~ chairperson and
19 each of the members shall be appointed for a term of six years, provided
20 however, that the ~~[chairman]~~ chairperson first appointed shall serve for
21 a term ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-one, provided that
22 thirty days after the effective date of ~~[the]~~ chapter twenty-five of the
23 laws of two thousand nine ~~[which amended this subparagraph]~~, the term of
24 the ~~[chairman]~~ chairperson shall expire; provided, further, that such
25 ~~[chairman]~~ chairperson may continue to discharge the duties of his or
26 her office until the position of ~~[chairman]~~ chairperson is filled by
27 appointment by the governor upon the advice and consent of the senate
28 and the term of such new ~~[chairman]~~ chairperson shall terminate June
29 thirtieth, two thousand fifteen. The sixteen other members first
30 appointed shall serve for the following terms: The members from the
31 counties of Nassau and Westchester shall each serve for a term ending
32 June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-five; the members from the coun-
33 ty of Suffolk and from the counties of Dutchess, Orange, Putnam and
34 Rockland shall each serve for a term ending June thirtieth, nineteen
35 hundred ninety-two; two of the members appointed on recommendation of
36 the mayor of the city of New York shall each serve for a term ending
37 June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-four and ~~[7]~~ two shall each serve
38 for a term ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-one; two of
39 the members appointed by the governor without the recommendation of any
40 other person shall each serve for a term ending June thirtieth, nineteen
41 hundred eighty-two, two shall each serve for a term ending June thirti-
42 eth, nineteen hundred eighty and one shall serve for a term ending June
43 thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-five. The two non-voting and four
44 alternate non-voting members shall serve until January first, two thou-
45 sand one. The members from the counties of Dutchess, Orange, Putnam and
46 Rockland shall cast one collective vote.

47 (2) There shall be ~~[two]~~ three non-voting members and four alternate
48 non-voting members of the authority, as referred to in subparagraph one
49 of this paragraph.

50 The first non-voting member shall be a regular ~~[mass transit]~~ user of
51 the mass transit facilities of the authority and be recommended to the
52 governor by the New York city transit authority advisory council. The
53 first alternate non-voting member shall be a regular ~~[mass transit]~~ user
54 of the mass transit facilities of the authority and be recommended to
55 the governor by the Metro-North commuter council. The second alternate
56 non-voting member shall be a regular ~~[mass transit]~~ user of the mass

1 transit facilities of the authority and be recommended to the governor
2 by the Long Island Rail Road commuter's council.

3 The second non-voting member shall be recommended to the governor by
4 the labor organization representing the majority of employees of the
5 Long Island Rail Road. The third alternate non-voting member shall be
6 recommended to the governor by the labor organization representing the
7 majority of employees of the New York city transit authority. The fourth
8 alternate non-voting member shall be recommended to the governor by the
9 labor organization representing the majority of employees of the Metro-
10 North Commuter Railroad Company. The [~~chairman~~] chairperson of the
11 authority, at his or her direction, may exclude such non-voting member
12 or alternate non-voting member from attending any portion of a meeting
13 of the authority or of any committee established pursuant to paragraph
14 (b) of subdivision four of this section held for the purpose of discuss-
15 ing negotiations with labor organizations.

16 The non-voting member and the two alternate non-voting members repres-
17 enting the New York [~~York~~] city transit authority advisory council, the
18 Metro-North commuter council, and the Long Island Rail Road commuter's
19 council shall serve eighteen month rotating terms, after which time an
20 alternate non-voting member shall become the non-voting member and the
21 rotation shall continue until each alternate member has served at least
22 one eighteen month term as a non-voting member. The other non-voting
23 member and alternate non-voting members representing the New York city
24 transit authority, Metro-North Commuter Railroad Company, and the Long
25 Island Rail Road labor organizations shall serve eighteen month rotating
26 terms, after which time an alternate non-voting member shall become the
27 non-voting member and the rotation shall continue until each alternate
28 member has served at least one eighteen month term as a non-voting
29 member. The transit authority and the commuter railroads shall not be
30 represented concurrently by the two non-voting members during any such
31 eighteen month period.

32 The third non-voting member shall be a regular user of the mass trans-
33 it facilities of the authority and be recommended to the governor by the
34 metropolitan transportation authority riders' council for people with
35 disabilities and shall serve an eighteen month term.

36 § 2. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of section 1263 of the public
37 authorities law, as amended by section 4 of part H of chapter 25 of the
38 laws of 2009, is amended to read as follows:

39 (a) (1) There is hereby created the "metropolitan transportation
40 authority." The authority shall be a body corporate and politic consti-
41 tuting a public benefit corporation. The authority shall consist of a
42 [~~chairman and~~] chairperson, sixteen other voting members appointed by
43 the governor by and with the advice and consent of the senate, and three
44 non-voting and four alternate non-voting members, as described in
45 subparagraph two of this paragraph appointed by the governor by and with
46 the advice and consent of the senate. Any member appointed to a term
47 commencing on or after June thirtieth, two thousand nine shall have
48 experience in one or more of the following areas of expertise: trans-
49 portation, public administration, business management, finance, account-
50 ing, law, engineering, land use, urban and regional planning, management
51 of large capital projects, labor relations, or have experience in some
52 other area of activity central to the mission of the authority. Four of
53 the sixteen members other than the [~~chairman~~] chairperson shall be
54 appointed on the written recommendation of the mayor of the city of New
55 York; and each of seven other members other than the [~~chairman~~] chair-
56 person shall be appointed after selection from a written list of three

1 recommendations from the chief executive officer of the county in which
2 the particular member is required to reside pursuant to the provisions
3 of this subdivision. Of the members appointed on recommendation of the
4 chief executive officer of a county, one such member shall be, at the
5 time of appointment, a resident of the county of Nassau; one a resident
6 of the county of Suffolk; one a resident of the county of Westchester;
7 and one a resident of the county of Dutchess, one a resident of the
8 county of Orange, one a resident of the county of Putnam and one a resi-
9 dent of the county of Rockland, provided that the term of any member who
10 is a resident of a county that has withdrawn from the metropolitan
11 commuter transportation district pursuant to section twelve hundred
12 seventy-nine-b of this [article] title shall terminate upon the effec-
13 tive date of such county's withdrawal from such district. Of the five
14 members, other than the [chairman] chairperson, appointed by the gover-
15 nor without recommendation from any other person, three shall be, at the
16 time of appointment, residents of the city of New York and two shall be,
17 at the time of appointment, residents of such city or of any of the
18 aforementioned counties in the metropolitan commuter transportation
19 district. The [chairman] chairperson and each of the members shall be
20 appointed for a term of six years, provided however, that the [chairman]
21 chairperson first appointed shall serve for a term ending June thirti-
22 eth, nineteen hundred eighty-one, provided that thirty days after the
23 effective date of [the] chapter twenty-five of the laws of two thousand
24 nine [which amended this paragraph], the term of the [chairman] chair-
25 person shall expire; provided, further, that such [chairman] chairperson
26 may continue to discharge the duties of his office until the position of
27 [chairman] chairperson is filled by appointment by the governor upon the
28 advice and consent of the senate and the term of such new [chairman]
29 chairperson shall terminate June thirtieth, two thousand fifteen. The
30 sixteen other members first appointed shall serve for the following
31 terms: The members from the counties of Nassau and Westchester shall
32 each serve for a term ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-
33 five; the members from the county of Suffolk and from the counties of
34 Dutchess, Orange, Putnam and Rockland shall each serve for a term ending
35 June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety-two; two of the members
36 appointed on recommendation of the mayor of the city of New York shall
37 each serve for a term ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-
38 four and [r] two shall each serve for a term ending June thirtieth, nine-
39 teen hundred eighty-one; two of the members appointed by the governor
40 without the recommendation of any other person shall each serve for a
41 term ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-two, two shall each
42 serve for a term ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty and one
43 shall serve for a term ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-
44 five. The members from the counties of Dutchess, Orange, Putnam and
45 Rockland shall cast one collective vote.

46 (2) There shall be three non-voting members and four alternate non-
47 voting members of the authority, as referred to in subparagraph one of
48 this paragraph.

49 The first non-voting member shall be a regular user of the mass trans-
50 it facilities of the authority and be recommended to the governor by the
51 New York city transit authority advisory council. The first alternate
52 non-voting member shall be a regular user of the mass transit facilities
53 of the authority and be recommended to the governor by the Metro-North
54 commuter council. The second alternate non-voting member shall be a
55 regular user of the mass transit facilities of the authority and be

1 recommended to the governor by the Long Island Rail Road commuter's
2 council.

3 The second non-voting member shall be recommended to the governor by
4 the labor organization representing the majority of employees of the
5 Long Island Rail Road. The third alternate non-voting member shall be
6 recommended to the governor by the labor organization representing the
7 majority of employees of the New York city transit authority. The fourth
8 alternate non-voting member shall be recommended to the governor by the
9 labor organization representing the majority of employees of the Metro-
10 North Commuter Railroad Company. The chairperson of the authority, at
11 his or her direction, may exclude such non-voting member or alternate
12 non-voting member from attending any portion of a meeting of the author-
13 ity or of any committee established pursuant to paragraph (b) of subdi-
14 vision four of this section held for the purpose of discussing negoti-
15 ations with labor organizations.

16 The non-voting member and the two alternate non-voting members repres-
17 enting the New York city transit authority advisory council, the Metro-
18 North commuter council, and the Long Island Rail Road commuter's council
19 shall serve eighteen month rotating terms, after which time an alternate
20 non-voting member shall become the non-voting member and the rotation
21 shall continue until each alternate member has served at least one eigh-
22 teen month term as a non-voting member. The other non-voting member and
23 alternate non-voting members representing the New York city transit
24 authority, Metro-North Commuter Railroad Company, and the Long Island
25 Rail Road labor organizations shall serve eighteen month rotating terms,
26 after which time an alternate non-voting member shall become the non-
27 voting member and the rotation shall continue until each alternate
28 member has served at least one eighteen month term as a non-voting
29 member. The transit authority and the commuter railroads shall not be
30 represented concurrently by the two non-voting members during any such
31 eighteen month period.

32 The third non-voting member shall be a regular user of the mass trans-
33 it facilities of the authority and be recommended to the governor by the
34 metropolitan transportation authority riders' council for people with
35 disabilities and shall serve an eighteen month term.

36 § 3. The public authorities law is amended by adding a new section
37 1266-1 to read as follows:

38 § 1266-1. Metropolitan transportation authority riders' council for
39 persons with disabilities. 1. There is hereby created the "metropolitan
40 transportation authority riders' council for persons with disabilities",
41 to study, investigate, monitor, and make recommendations with respect to
42 the accommodation of the needs and convenience of people with disabili-
43 ties to the metropolitan transportation authority and its subsidiaries
44 within the metropolitan commuter transportation district. Such council
45 shall study and investigate all aspects of the day-to-day operations of
46 such authority and its subsidiaries, monitor their performance, and
47 recommend changes to improve the efficiency of the operation thereof all
48 with respect to the accommodation of the needs and convenience of people
49 with disabilities.

50 2. Such council shall consist of fifteen members who shall be commu-
51 ters who regularly use the transportation services of such authorities
52 and who are people with disabilities as defined in any applicable state
53 or federal law. Each member shall be appointed by the governor, one
54 upon the recommendation of the mayor of the city of New York; one upon
55 the recommendation of the president of the city council of the city of
56 New York; one upon the recommendation of the New York state comptroller;

1 five other members upon the recommendation of each of the borough presi-
2 dents of the boroughs of the city of New York; one upon the recommenda-
3 tion by the county executive of Nassau; one upon the recommendation by
4 the county executive of Suffolk; one upon the recommendation by the
5 county executive of Westchester; one upon the recommendation by the
6 county executive of Rockland; one upon the recommendation by the county
7 executive of Putnam; one upon the recommendation by the county executive
8 of Dutchess; and one upon the recommendation by the county executive of
9 Orange. The chair shall be a member selected by the membership of the
10 committee. Each of the members shall serve for a term of two years.
11 Vacancies that occur other than by expiration of term shall be filled in
12 the same manner as the original appointments for the balance of the
13 unexpired term.

14 3. The members of the council shall receive no compensation for their
15 services but shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses
16 incurred in the performance of their duties.

17 4. To the extent that any funds are made available to the council for
18 the purposes of this subdivision, the council may provide resources as
19 are necessary to provide support services to the council as necessary or
20 convenient to allow members to perform their duties including, but not
21 limited to, transportation, telecommunications and accessible technology
22 support, and may employ additional staff and consultants and incur other
23 expenses to carry out its duties, to be paid from amounts which may be
24 made available to the council for such purpose.

25 5. The council may request and shall receive from any department,
26 division, board, bureau, commission, agency, public authority of the
27 state or any political subdivision thereof such assistance and data as
28 will enable it properly to carry out its activities under this section
29 and effectuate the purposes set forth in this section.

30 § 4. This act shall take effect immediately; provided that the amend-
31 ments to subparagraphs 1 and 2 of paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of
32 section 1263 of the public authorities law made by section one of this
33 act shall be subject to the expiration and reversion of such paragraph
34 pursuant to chapter 549 of the laws of 1994 as amended, when upon such
35 date the provisions of section two of this act shall take effect.