STATE OF NEW YORK

1647--A

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 13, 2023

Introduced by Sen. HOYLMAN-SIGAL -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations -- recommitted to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations 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 public officers law, in relation to lowering quorum requirements for meetings of community boards held by videoconferencing

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

Section 1. The opening paragraph of subdivision 2 of section 103-a of the public officers law, as added by section 2 of part WW of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

A public body may, in its discretion, use videoconferencing to conduct its meetings pursuant to the requirements of this article provided that a minimum number of members are present to fulfill the public body's quorum requirement in the same physical location or locations where the public can attend**, except that in the case of an advisory body, one quarter of the members and the relevant presiding officer must be present in such physical location or locations,** and the following criteria are met:

§ 2. Section 103-a of the public officers law is amended by adding a new subdivision 6 to read as follows:

6. For the purposes of this section, an "advisory body" shall be defined as an entity that is involved in an advisory capacity only; including but not limited to engagement in policy development, program planning, and program evaluation, and that may or may not vote to determine a final policy or programmatic outcome, including but not limited to a community board in a city with a population of one million or more.

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

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§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that the amendments to section 103-a of the public officers law made by sections one and two of this act shall not affect the repeal of such section and shall be deemed repealed therewith.