STATE OF NEW YORK

8793

IN SENATE

March 12, 2024

Introduced by Sen. FERNANDEZ -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations

AN ACT to amend the public officers law, in relation to removing the requirement for in person attendance at public meetings by certain community boards

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

Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "access for all act (AFA)".

§ 2. Section 103-a of the public officers law is amended by adding a new subdivision 3-a to read as follows:

3-a. The in person participation requirements of this section shall not apply to community boards in a city with a population of over one million; provided, however, that notwithstanding the requirements set forth in this section, such community boards shall not be required to maintain a physical location for meetings; and provided further, however, that such community boards may, through written procedures governing member and public attendance established pursuant to and consistent with this section, allow for any member to be considered present for purposes of fulfilling the quorum requirements of such public body at any meetings conducted through videoconferencing, provided, however that the remaining criteria set forth in this section are otherwise met.

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the public officers law made by section two of this act shall not affect the repeal of such section and shall be deemed repealed therewith.

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

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