STATE OF NEW YORK

10478

IN ASSEMBLY

March 6, 2026

Introduced by M. of A. SCHIAVONI -- read once and referred to the Committee on Local Governments

AN ACT in relation to increasing the term of office from two years to four years for the Trustees of the Freeholders and Commonalty of the town of Southampton and providing for the staggering of such terms of office

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

Section 1. The electors of the town of Southampton are hereby authorized and empowered to elect by ballot from their number at the biennial town election to be held in such town in 2026 and biennially thereafter, in the same manner as other town officers are elected, 5 freeholders as trustees, who shall continue to be known as the Trustees of the Freeholders and Commonalty of the Town of Southampton. They shall hold office for a term of 4 years, provided that at the biennial election to be held in such town in 2026, 3 trustees shall hold office for a term of 4 years and 2 trustees shall hold office for a term of 2 years. At the biennial election to be held in such town in 2026, the 3 candidates receiving the largest number of votes shall be entitled to hold office for a term of 4 years. The remaining 2 successful candidates shall hold office for a term of 2 years. Thereafter, at all subsequent biennial town elections, all trustees shall hold office for a term of 4 years. They shall within 10 days after their election and qualification, meet and choose from their number, by majority vote, a chairman and a clerk of such board. Such trustees, or a majority of them, are hereby authorized and empowered to manage, lease, convey or otherwise dispose of all or any part of all such common lands, waters, and lands under water, or rights or other interests therein, subject, as to lands under water, to the public right of navigation and to the riparian rights of adjoining upland owners, as the trustees have acquired and now hold by virtue of any colonial patent or charter; and for this purpose said board may execute all such conveyances, leases, permits, agreements or other writings, necessary or proper in carrying into effect the provisions of this act; subject, however, to and in accordance with such rules and regu-

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

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lations, if any, concerning the management and disposition of such property and rights, as the electors of such town may adopt or impose at a biennial town election; and the electors of such town are hereby empowered to adopt from time to time such rules and regulations as a proposition at any biennial town election.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.