

STATE OF NEW YORK

5294

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 12, 2025

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

AN ACT to amend the town law, in relation to certain alternate members of planning boards and zoning boards of appeals

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision 11 of section 267 of the town law, as added by
2 chapter 137 of the laws of 1998, is amended to read as follows:

3 11. Alternate members. (a) A town board may, by local law or ordi-
4 nance, or as a part of the local law or ordinance creating the zoning
5 board of appeals, establish alternate zoning board of appeals member
6 positions for purposes of substituting for a member in the event such
7 member is unable to participate because of a conflict of interest, or
8 any other reason the town board deems necessary pursuant to local law,
9 rule, regulation or ordinance. Alternate members of the zoning board of
10 appeals shall be appointed by resolution of the town board, for terms
11 established by the town board.

12 (b) The chairperson of the zoning board of appeals may designate an
13 alternate member to substitute for a member when such member is unable
14 to participate because of a conflict of interest on an application or
15 matter before the board, or any other reason the town board deems neces-
16 sary pursuant to local law, rule, regulation or ordinance. When so
17 designated, the alternate member shall possess all the powers and
18 responsibilities of such member of the board. Such designation shall be
19 entered into the minutes of the initial zoning board of appeals meeting
20 at which the substitution is made.

21 (c) All provisions of this section relating to zoning board of appeals
22 member training and continuing education, attendance, conflict of inter-
23 est, compensation, eligibility, vacancy in office, removal, and service
24 on other boards, shall also apply to alternate members.

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

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1 § 2. Subdivision 15 of section 271 of the town law, as added by chap-
2 ter 137 of the laws of 1998, is amended to read as follows:

3 15. Alternate members. a. A town board may, by local law or ordinance,
4 or as part of the local law or ordinance creating the planning board,
5 establish alternate planning board member positions for purposes of
6 substituting for a member in the event such member is unable to partic-
7 ipate because of a conflict of interest, or any other reason the town
8 board deems necessary pursuant to local law, rule, regulation or ordi-
9 nance. Alternate members of the planning board shall be appointed by
10 resolution of the town board, for terms established by the town board.

11 b. The chairperson of the planning board may designate an alternate
12 member to substitute for a member when such member is unable to partic-
13 ipate because of a conflict of interest on an application or matter
14 before the board, or any other reason the town board deems necessary
15 pursuant to local law, rule, regulation or ordinance. When so desig-
16 nated, the alternate member shall possess all the powers and responsi-
17 bilities of such member of the board. Such designation shall be entered
18 into the minutes of the initial planning board meeting at which the
19 substitution is made.

20 c. All provisions of this section relating to planning board member
21 training and continuing education, attendance, conflict of interest,
22 compensation, eligibility, vacancy in office, removal, and service on
23 other boards, shall also apply to alternate members.

24 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.