STATE OF NEW YORK

7201

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

April 3, 2025

Introduced by Sen. HARCKHAM -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government

AN ACT to amend the village law, in relation to certain elections for fire companies in Croton-on-Hudson

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

Section 1. Section 10-1010 of the village law, as amended by chapter 481 of the laws of 2015, is amended to read as follows:

§ 10-1010 Election of company officers and delegates. Each of the several companies whose members constitute the fire department of the village shall hold an annual meeting on the first Tuesday in April in each year, except those fire companies constituting the fire department of the village of Fishkill, Dutchess county, **and the village of Croton-on-Hudson, Westchester county,** which shall hold such annual meetings on the first Tuesday in December of each year. At such meeting the members of each company shall elect by ballot from their own number a captain and a lieutenant, and such further officers if any as may be provided for in the by-laws of the company, who must be approved by the board of fire commissioners, one warden and one delegate to the general convention of the fire department. The terms of office of the captain and lieutenant and such further officers if any, as are elected as herein provided, shall be one year, the wardens two years, and the delegates three years, respectively, and any vacancies occurring in any such offices shall be filled by election in like manner. At the first annual meeting after this act takes effect two wardens and three delegates shall be elected, the wardens to serve for one and two years, respectively, and the delegates for one, two and three years, respectively. Any person who has been convicted of arson in any degree shall not be eligible for election to the office of captain, lieutenant, warden, delegate and any other offices provided for in the by-laws of the company. Any captain, lieutenant, warden, delegate or other officer of the

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

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company who is convicted of arson in any degree during [~~his~~] **their** term of office shall be disqualified from completing such term of office.

§ 2. Subdivision 1 of section 10-1012 of the village law, as amended by chapter 380 of the laws of 2024, is amended to read as follows:

1. The chief and the first and second assistant chiefs and such additional assistant chiefs, if any, as may be provided for in the by-laws of the fire department shall each be a member thereof and a resident of the state of New York; provided, however, that fire department officers of the fire department of the village of Hancock, Delaware county, need not be residents of the state of New York. In addition, the board of trustees, or the board of fire commissioners subject to the approval of the board of trustees, may, by resolution, require that any or all of such fire department officers shall be residents of the village. The delegates elected to the general convention of the fire department shall meet at the council room thereof on the Thursday following the first Tuesday in April, except the elected delegates of the fire department of the village of Fishkill, Dutchess county, which shall meet on the first Tuesday in December, and nominate a person for each of such offices **and except the elected delegates of the fire department of the village of Croton-on-Hudson, Westchester county, which shall meet on the Thursday following the first Tuesday in December**; but the fire commissioners of any village may adopt a rule requiring all such nominations to be made on the day of the meeting by a vote of the duly qualified members of the department, in which case the meeting of the delegates in general convention, as provided for in this section, shall be dispensed with. The person acting as secretary of such convention shall forthwith file in the office of the village clerk a certificate of such nominations. The board of fire commissioners at its next meeting shall consider the nominations and appoint such persons to the offices to which they are respectively nominated or, if a nomination is not approved the board shall reconvene the general convention, which shall submit a new nomination to take the place of any nomination not approved, which procedure shall continue until a full set of officers is approved. A person who has been convicted of arson in any degree shall not be eligible for nomination, election or appointment to the office of chief or assistant chief. Any fire chief or assistant chief who is convicted of arson in any degree during [~~his~~] **their** term of office shall be disqualified from completing such term of office.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.