STATE OF NEW YORK

8934

IN SENATE

January 16, 2026

Introduced by Sen. LIU -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Cities 1

AN ACT to amend the municipal home rule law, in relation to revision of a city charter; and to provide for the repeal of certain provisions upon the expiration thereof

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

Section 1. This act shall be known as the "Election-Related Requirements for Initiating Charter Commissions (ERIC) Act".

§ 2. Subdivision 4 of section 36 of the municipal home rule law, as amended by chapter 592 of the laws of 1964, is amended to read as follows:

4. **(a)** A charter commission to draft a new or revised city charter may also be created by the mayor of any city. Such commission shall consist of not less than nine nor more than fifteen members, all of whom shall be residents of the city. Original appointments to such a commission shall be made by the mayor by a certificate of appointment which shall specify the number of, and names of, the members to constitute the commission, which certificate shall be filed forthwith with the city clerk. The [~~chairman, vice-chairman~~] **chair, vice-chair** and secretary shall be appointed by the mayor from among the members of the commission. Any vacancy in the membership of such a commission or of its officers shall be filed by the mayor.

(b) When a certificate of appointment is filed within sixty days before or after the date of a general election at which a mayor is elected, but before January first in the year following such election, the continued existence of the charter commission and appointments to the commission shall be dependent on confirmation by the mayor in office on the first day of January of the following year within sixty days of the start of the calendar year. Failure to obtain such confirmation within the sixty-day period shall cause the charter commission to expire and nullify all appointments to such commission as well as any proposed revisions to the city charter or any new proposed charter.

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

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(c) In the event that a mayor first assumes office between November fourth, two thousand twenty-five and the effective date of paragraph (b) of this subdivision, the continued existence of the charter commission and appointments to the commission as provided in paragraph (b) of this subdivision shall be dependent on confirmation by the mayor within sixty days of the effective date of paragraph (b) of this subdivision. Failure to obtain such confirmation within the sixty-day period shall cause the charter commission to expire and nullify all appointments to such commission as well as any proposed revisions to the city charter or any new proposed charter.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall be deemed to have been in effect on and after November 4, 2025, and shall apply to any charter commission created for which a certificate of appointment was filed after November 4, 2025; provided, however, that paragraph (c) of subdivision 4 of section 36 of the municipal home rule law as added by section two of this act shall expire and be deemed repealed one year after the effective date of this act.