LOCAL LAW NO. "T" FOR 2018

A Local Law of the County of Albany, New York, Amending Various Provisions of the Albany County Charter and Local Law No. 8 for 1993 as Subsequently Amended for the Purpose of Incorporating Term Limits for Certain County Offices

Introduced: 10/9/18

By: Drake

Pursuant to Sections 10 and 33 of the Municipal Home Rule Law and Section 2701 of the Albany County Charter:

Be it enacted by the County Legislature as follows:

Section 1. Section 202 of the Albany County Charter is amended to read as follows:

All County Legislators shall be electors of the County and have been residents continuously in the County and the district represented for at least one (1) year prior to taking office. No person shall serve as a County Legislator for more than three (3) total four-year terms. No service for a partial term as a County Legislator shall be included in calculating the three (3) term limit. Each County Legislator shall reside in the district from which that County Legislator seeks election at the time of nomination for office, and continue to be a resident of the County and of the district within the County which she represents for the entire term of her office, subject, however, to the following exception: in the case of an election immediately following the reapportionment of County Legislative Districts, the incumbent County Legislator representing a district redrawn in such reapportionment shall be eligible for nomination for election in either the district of residence, or any newly drawn district which is contiguous to the district of residence, provided that the County Legislator shall become a resident of the district represented prior to taking office. Members of the County Legislature shall be nominated at the primary election in the same manner other County officers are nominated pursuant to the provisions of the Election Law.

Section 2. Section 301 of the Albany County Charter is amended to read as follows:

There shall be a County Executive who shall be an elector of the County, have been residing continuously in the County for at least one (1) year preceding her election, and be elected from the County at large. Her term of office shall be four (4) years and begin on the January 1 following her election. No person shall serve as a County Executive for more than three (3) total four-year terms. No service for a partial term as a County Executive shall be included in calculating the three (3) term limit. The election for County Executive shall be conducted at the general election of 1995, and at general elections every fourth year thereafter. At the time of her election and throughout her term of office, she shall be a qualified elector of the County and hold no other public office. Commencing January 1, 1995, she shall not hold the position of chair, vice chair, secretary or treasurer or other comparable office of a County political party committee. The County Executive shall receive such compensation for her duties as fixed by the County Legislature. The compensation of the County Executive shall not be increased nor decreased during her term of office.

Section 3. Section 402 of the Albany County Charter is amended to read as follows:

The Comptroller shall be a qualified elector of the County, and have been a resident continuously in the County for at least one (1) year preceding her election, and be elected from the County at large. The term of office of the Comptroller shall be four (4) years, and shall begin on January 1 next following her election. No person shall serve as a Comptroller for more than three (3) total four-year terms. No service for a partial term as a Comptroller shall be included in calculating the three (3) term limit. The election for Comptroller shall be conducted at the general election of 1995, and at general elections every fourth year thereafter. She shall hold no other public office. Commencing January 1995, she shall not hold the positions of chair, vice-chair, secretary, treasurer or comparable office of a County political party committee. The compensation of the Comptroller shall be fixed by the County Legislature and not be increased nor decreased during her term of office.

Section 4. Severability

If any article, section, subsection, paragraph, phrase or sentence of this local law is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, that portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

Section 5. Effective Date

This local law shall not become effective until January 1, 2020.

Pursuant to Sections 23 and 33 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, this local law, which curtails the powers of Albany County elective officers and amends the Albany County Charter, shall be subject to a mandatory referendum. This local law shall not become operative unless and until this local law is approved by the duly qualified voters of Albany County in the manner prescribed by law at a general or special election occurring not less than sixty days after the adoption of this local law.

Referred to Law Committee - 10/9/18