

RESOLUTION NO. 506

ESTABLISHING A COMMISSION TO RESTRUCTURE THE EXISTING COUNTY LEGISLATURE BY REDUCING THE NUMBER OF LEGISLATORS

Introduced: 12/8/14

By Mr. Morse:

WHEREAS, This Honorable Body has approved the Democratic Majority's proposal to restructure the Albany County Legislature by reducing the number of legislators by ten in time for the 2015 election, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the Albany County Legislature that a seven member commission is hereby established to recommend a plan to restructure the Albany County Legislature by reducing the number of legislators to twenty-nine (29), and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the commission members shall be appointed as follows:

The Commission members shall include representatives of the two (2) principal political parties and reasonably reflect the demographic composition of the County.

To establish a pool from which members will be appointed, the Clerk of the County Legislature shall widely solicit interest in serving on the Commission through such means as direct mail and e-mail contact with civic groups, public service announcements on radio and television and in daily and weekly newspapers, paid advertisement and announcement on the County website.

Initial appointments to the Commission from the pool of interested parties gathered in this manner shall be made no later than thirty (30) days of the passage of this resolution with two (2) members appointed by the Majority Leader of the County Legislature and two members by the Minority Leader of the County Legislature. These four (4) appointed Commissioners shall select the additional three (3) Commission members from the pool previously established no later than thirty (30) days after their initial appointment. If, for any reason, the Commissioners fail to select the additional members as herein required, then the Majority Leader, the Minority Leader and the Chairperson will each select one additional member from such pool as shall be necessary to fully constitute the Commission,

and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the County Legislature is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the appropriate County Officials.

Resolution was amended by Mr. Ward as follows:

Delete the first "WHEREAS" Clause of the resolution.

Amendment was passed by voice vote.

Resolution was amended by Mr. Ward as follows:

In the first 'RESOLVED" Clause of the resolution, following "twenty-nine (29)" add "in time for the 2015 election"

On roll call vote on this amendment the following voted in favor: Messrs. Beston, Bullock, Ms. Chapman, Messrs. Clay, Commisso, Corcoran, Cotrofeld, Dawson, Domalewicz, Ethier, Feeney, Higgins, Jacobson, Joyce, Ms. Kinsch, Mr. Mackey, Mss. Maffia-Tobler, McKnight, McLean Lane, Messrs. Morse, Nichols, O'Brien, Rahm, Reilly, Simpson and Ward – 26.

Those opposed: Mss. Benedict, Busch, Messrs. Carman, Clouse, Crouse, Hogan, Ms. Lockart, Messrs. Mendick, Stevens and Tunny – 10.

Amendment was passed.

On roll call vote on the amended resolution the following voted in favor: Messrs. Beston, Bullock, Ms. Chapman, Messrs. Clay, Commisso, Corcoran, Cotrofeld, Domalewicz, Ethier, Feeney, Jacobson, Joyce, Mackay, Mss. Maffia-Tobler, McLean Lane, Messrs. Morse, Nichols, O'Brien, Rahm, Reilly, Simpson and Ward – 22.

Those opposed: Mss. Benedict, Busch, Messrs. Carman, Clouse, Crouse, Dawson, Higgins, Hogan, Mss. Kinsch, Lockart, McKnight, Messrs. Mendick, Stevens and Tunny – 14.

Resolution as amended was adopted. 12/8/14