



**THE NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE BUDGET REVIEW  
MAURICE CHALMERS, DIRECTOR  
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

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**TITLE:**

A Local Law to amend the Nassau County Administrative Code in relation to the composition and jurisdiction of the Nassau County Water Resources Board.

**SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION:**

This proposed local law, as amended, clarifies the powers, duties and objectives of the Water Resources Board. The goal of the board is to:

- To review and consider potential imminent, short term and long term threats, as well as existing threats to the quantity and quality of Nassau County's groundwater resources.
- To monitor the actions and proposals of neighboring groundwater suppliers that can threaten Nassau County's water supply.
- To oversee local groundwater suppliers to ensure that any actions taken do not have an adverse impact on Nassau County's water supply.
- To act as a liaison between the County, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the United States Geological Survey, the Long Island Commission on Aquifer Protection, the regional suppliers outside Nassau County, and all existing water systems within the County.
- To authorize the preparation or collection of research and data, and to consider such reports, studies and surveys as may be pertinent to the duties of the Board.
- To report and make recommendations to the County Executive and the County Legislature such as legal activity the County may undertake to protect against adverse impacts to the quantity and quality of Nassau County's water supply.

The Board continues to consist of at least five but not more than nine voting members appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Legislature. The members will be, to the extent feasible, citizens possessing outstanding qualifications in the various disciplines associated with public water supply and related fields including but not limited to hydrology, geology, hydrogeology, public sanitation, public health, engineering, academia with a specialization in the study of groundwater issues, environmental protection and advocacy, environmental law or employment with a public water provider. The County Executive will designate one of the voting members as Chairman of the Board.

The proposed law requires one non-voting board member be appointed by the Presiding Officer, and one non-voting member appointed by the Minority Leader. The Commissioner of Public Works, the Commissioner of Health and the County Attorney, or their designees will remain as ex-officio members of the Board and possess the same voting privileges as the member designated.

The proposed local law requires the Board to meet quarterly throughout the calendar year. Notice of meetings will be provided and such meetings will be open to the public in compliance with the provisions of the Public Officers Law. Minutes of the meetings and agendas will be kept and provided to all members of the Board.

Finally, this proposed local law changes any reference to the Board of Supervisors in the Administrative Code to the County Legislature. The law also changes the date that the annual report should be submitted to the Legislature from December 15 to February 1 of each year.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

This local law would take effect immediately.

**ECONOMIC IMPACT:**

The proposed law is not expected to have an economic impact on the local economy.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The members of the Board do not receive compensation for their services but will be reimbursed for their expenditures incurred in the performance of their duties related to this law.

The Legislature may appropriate funds sufficient to meet the expenses of the Board. The Board may employ personnel. The County Executive on his own initiative or upon the request of the Board may from time to time assign or detail public employees to perform work for the Board and may enter into contracts on behalf of the Board. No budget has been determined as of yet.

**PREPARED BY:**

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