



MEMO OF SUPPORT

S611-B (Mayer) / A919-A (Jacobson)

Makes local elections commissioners full-time employees of the board

May 10, 2024

TITLE OF BILL

An act to amend the election law, in relation to making commissioners full-time employees of the board.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS

Section 1 amends Election Law §3-200 to provide that election commissioners in counties outside NYC shall be full-time employees of the board.

Section 2 states that the bill takes effect immediately.

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

Reinvent Albany supports this bill, which will improve election administration in New York.

In most states, an elected secretary of state heads a large staff which administers elections. In New York, elections are administered by the staff of county boards of elections. Currently, New York's county election commissioners are not required to work full-time. We believe every county has an election administration workload that requires one or more full-time administrators.

Requiring commissioners to be full-time election administrators is an important step towards making sure elections are better-run. We urge the Legislature to pass this bill, and the Governor to sign it.