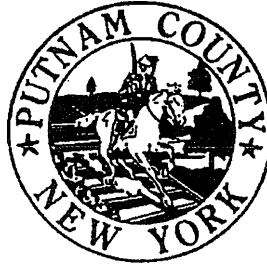


THE PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE

40 Gleneida Avenue  
Carmel, New York 10512  
(845) 808-1020 Fax (845) 808-1933

Paul E. Jonke *Chairman*  
Amy E. Sayegh *Deputy Chair*  
Diane Schonfeld *Clerk*  
Robert Firriolo *Counsel*



Nancy Montgomery	Dist. 1
William Gouldman	Dist. 2
Toni E. Addonizio	Dist. 3
Ginny Nacerino	Dist. 4
Greg E. Ellner	Dist. 5
Paul E. Jonke	Dist. 6
Joseph Castellano	Dist. 7
Amy E. Sayegh	Dist. 8
Erin L. Crowley	Dist. 9

**REVISED  
AGENDA  
SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE  
PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
CALLED BY THE CLERK AT THE REQUEST OF THE CHAIRMAN  
TO BE HELD IN ROOM #318  
OF THE  
COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING  
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

**Tuesday November 12, 2024 6:00 P.M.**

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. Legislative Prayer**
- 3. Roll Call**
- 4. Approval – Local Law Strengthening the Term Limit Provisions for the Office of Putnam County Legislator**
- 5. Approval – Local Law Strengthening the Term Limit Provisions for the Office of Putnam County Executive**
- 6. Other Business**
  - 6a. Re-Consideration of County Executive's 2025 Budget Veto**
- 7. Adjournment**

#4

Committee Mtg \_\_\_\_\_ Resolution # \_\_\_\_\_  
Introduced By \_\_\_\_\_ Regular Mtg \_\_\_\_\_  
Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_ Special Mtg \_\_\_\_\_

**A LOCAL LAW STRENGTHENING THE TERM LIMIT PROVISIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATOR**

**Section 1. The Legislature of the County of Putnam, New York hereby makes the following findings and determinations:**

**(a) that Local Law No. 8 of 2013 (“Local Law No. 8”), enacted by the County Legislature on July 2, 2013, sets forth a term limits regime for the office of County Legislator which currently may be amended merely by the favorable vote of two-thirds of all the members of the County Legislature, subject to permissive referendum; and**

**(b) that a system of governmental term limits engenders transparency in government, promotes the accountability of public officials, and increases public trust, as well as provides for the opportunity for new voices and new ideas to be heard; and**

**(c) that in order to engender transparency in government, promote accountability, and to increase public trust, this County Legislature is desirous of requiring a unanimous vote of the County Legislature in order to amend, modify or repeal term limits for the office of County Legislator; and**

**(d) that this County Legislature finds and determines that this Local Law changes its voting power and curtails its power relative to the amending, modifying or repealing of the term limits procedures of the County Legislature by increasing the number of affirmative votes necessary of the County Legislature in order to amend, modify or repeal the term limits procedures of the office of County Legislator, and**

**(e) that this County Legislature hereby finds and determines that this Local Law embraces only one subject: that of the term of the office of County Legislator,**

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF PUTNAM AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 2. Article 2, Section 2.02 of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended to read as follows:**

**A. The County Legislators shall be elected for terms of three (3) years at the general elections hereinafter provided and every three (3) years thereafter as follows:**

- Legislator Addonizio \_\_\_\_\_
- Legislator Castellano \_\_\_\_\_
- Legislator Crowley \_\_\_\_\_
- Legislator Ellner \_\_\_\_\_
- Legislator Gouldman \_\_\_\_\_
- Legislator Montgomery \_\_\_\_\_
- Legislator Nacerino \_\_\_\_\_
- Legislator Sayegh \_\_\_\_\_
- Chairman Jonke \_\_\_\_\_

**(1) At the general election held in November of 2026, County Legislators from Legislative Districts Two, Three and Eight shall be elected for said term of three years.**

**(2) At the general election held in November of 2027, County Legislators from Legislative Districts One, Four and Seven shall be elected for said term of three years.**

**(3) At the general election held in November of 2025, County Legislators from Legislative Districts Five, Six and Nine shall be elected for said term of three years.**

**B. With the exception of a partial term, the County Legislators shall serve a maximum of four (4) terms.**

**C. With the exception of a partial term, in no instance may a Legislator serve more than four terms or 12 years, whichever is less.**

**D. Except in the instance where a general or special state law would otherwise necessitate, amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in this Section 2.02 may only be accomplished by the enactment of a local law adopted by the County Legislature by a unanimous vote of the whole of its number, subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law.**

**Section 3. Article 3, Section 3.04-B(d) of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following paragraphs:**

**(d) Reconsideration.**

**Except as otherwise set forth in this Section 3.04-B, a vetoed enactment shall be resubmitted to the County Legislature together with the veto message at its next regular or special meeting, and such message shall be entered into its Book of Proceedings. Within thirty (30) days after such receipt and entry, the County Legislature may reconsider the vetoed enactment and pass the same over the County Executive's objections by a favorable vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the whole of its number on a roll-call vote. Only one such reconsideration vote shall be taken on any single vetoed enactment.**

**Other than the veto of an enactment necessitated by the passage of a general or special state law, a vetoed enactment amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in Section 2.02 of the County Charter shall be resubmitted to the County Legislature together with the veto message at its next regular or special meeting, and such message shall be entered into its Book of Proceedings. Within thirty (30) days after such receipt and entry, the County Legislature may reconsider the vetoed enactment and pass the same over the County Executive's objections by a unanimous vote of the whole of its number on a roll-call vote. Only one such reconsideration vote shall be taken on any single vetoed enactment.**

**Section 4. Article 15, Section 15.01 of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following paragraphs:**

**Except as otherwise set forth in this Section 15.01, a Charter amendment may be proposed by a member of the County Legislature, the County Executive or the**

**Legislative bodies of any of the towns or villages of the County. The proposal must then be enacted by a local law passed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the County Legislature subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law. Any proposed amendment which would have the effect of transferring a function or duty of the County or of a town, village, district or other unit of local government of the County shall not become operative unless it is approved by mandatory referendum. Any amendment which would create or abolish an elected office; change the power of an elected County officer during his or her term of office; abolish, curtail or transfer to another County officer or agency any power of an elected County officer, or change the method of election of the County Legislature, but not including decennial reapportionment, shall be subject to a permissive referendum.**

**Except in the instance where a general or special state law would necessitate such, a Charter amendment amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in Section 2.02 of the County Charter may only be enacted by a local law passed by a unanimous vote of the County Legislature, subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law.**

**Section 5. If any provision of this Local Law is held to be illegal or invalid for any reason, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions hereof, but such provision shall be fully severable and this Local Law shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had never been included.**

**Section 6. Pursuant to Section 34(5) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, this Local Law shall take effect sixty (60) days after its final enactment and is subject to permissive referendum.**

Remove  
AS 2/20/13  
#66

Committee Mtg \_\_\_\_\_ Resolution # \_\_\_\_\_  
Introduced By \_\_\_\_\_ Regular Mtg 11/6/13  
Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_ Special Mtg \_\_\_\_\_

**A LOCAL LAW STRENGTHENING THE TERM LIMIT PROVISIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATOR**

**Section 1. The Legislature of the County of Putnam, New York hereby makes the following findings and determinations:**

**(a) that Local Law No. 8 of 2013 ("Local Law No. 8"), enacted by the County Legislature on July 2, 2013, sets forth a term limits regime for the office of County Legislator which currently may be amended merely by the favorable vote of two-thirds of all the members of the County Legislature, subject to permissive referendum; and**

**(b) that a system of governmental term limits engenders transparency in government, promotes the accountability of public officials, and increases public trust, as well as provides for the opportunity for new voices and new ideas to be heard; and**

**(c) that in order to engender transparency in government, promote accountability, and to increase public trust, this County Legislature is desirous of requiring a unanimous vote of the County Legislature in order to amend, modify or repeal term limits for the office of County Legislator; and**

**(d) that this County Legislature finds and determines that this Local Law changes its voting power and curtails its power relative to the amending, modifying or repealing of the term limits procedures of the County Legislature by increasing the number of affirmative votes necessary of the County Legislature in order to amend, modify or repeal the term limits procedures of the office of County Legislator, and**

**(e) that this County Legislature hereby finds and determines that this Local Law embraces only one subject: that of the term of the office of County Legislator,**

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF PUTNAM AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 2. Article 2, Section 2.02 of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended to read as follows:**

**A. The County Legislators shall be elected for terms of three (3) years at the general elections hereinafter provided and every three (3) years thereafter as follows:**

Legislator Addonizio \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Castellano \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Crowley \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Ellner \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Gouldman \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Montgomery \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Nacerino \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Sayegh \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman Jonke \_\_\_\_\_

Absent  
Carries

Committee Mtg \_\_\_\_\_ Resolution # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Introduced By \_\_\_\_\_ Regular Mtg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_ Special Mtg \_\_\_\_\_

**(1) At the general election held in November of 2026, County Legislators from Legislative Districts Two, Three and Eight shall be elected for said term of three years.**

**(2) At the general election held in November of 2027, County Legislators from Legislative Districts One, Four and Seven shall be elected for said term of three years.**

**(3) At the general election held in November of 2025, County Legislators from Legislative Districts Five, Six and Nine shall be elected for said term of three years.**

**B. With the exception of a partial term, the County Legislators shall serve a maximum of four (4) terms.**

**C. With the exception of a partial term, in no instance may a Legislator serve more than four terms or 12 years, whichever is less.**

**D. Except in the instance where a general or special state law would otherwise necessitate, amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in this Section 2.02 may only be accomplished by the enactment of a local law adopted by the County Legislature by a unanimous vote of the whole of its number, subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law.**

**Section 3. Article 3, Section 3.04-B(d) of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following paragraphs:**

**(d) Reconsideration.**

**Except as otherwise set forth in this Section 3.04-B, a vetoed enactment shall be resubmitted to the County Legislature together with the veto message at its next regular or special meeting, and such message shall be entered into its Book of Proceedings. Within thirty (30) days after such receipt and entry, the County Legislature may reconsider the vetoed enactment and pass the same over the County Executive's objections by a favorable vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the whole of its number on a roll-call vote. Only one such reconsideration vote shall be taken on any single vetoed enactment.**

**Other than the veto of an enactment necessitated by the passage of a general or special state law, a vetoed enactment amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in Section 2.02 of the County Charter shall be resubmitted to the County Legislature together with the veto message at its next regular or special meeting, and such message shall be entered into its Book of Proceedings. Within thirty (30) days after**

Legislator Addonizio \_\_\_\_\_  
 Legislator Castellano \_\_\_\_\_  
 Legislator Crowley \_\_\_\_\_  
 Legislator Ellner \_\_\_\_\_  
 Legislator Gouldman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Legislator Montgomery \_\_\_\_\_  
 Legislator Nacerino \_\_\_\_\_  
 Legislator Sayegh \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chairman Jonke \_\_\_\_\_

Committee Mtg \_\_\_\_\_ Resolution # \_\_\_\_\_  
Introduced By \_\_\_\_\_ Regular Mtg \_\_\_\_\_  
Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_ Special Mtg \_\_\_\_\_

**such receipt and entry, the County Legislature may reconsider the vetoed enactment and pass the same over the County Executive's objections by a unanimous vote of the whole of its number on a roll-call vote. Only one such reconsideration vote shall be taken on any single vetoed enactment.**

**Section 4. Article 15, Section 15.01 of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following paragraphs:**

**Except as otherwise set forth in this Section 15.01, a Charter amendment may be proposed by a member of the County Legislature, the County Executive or the Legislative bodies of any of the towns or villages of the County. The proposal must then be enacted by a local law passed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the County Legislature subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law. Any proposed amendment which would have the effect of transferring a function or duty of the County or of a town, village, district or other unit of local government of the County shall not become operative unless it is approved by mandatory referendum. Any amendment which would create or abolish an elected office; change the power of an elected County officer during his or her term of office; abolish, curtail or transfer to another County officer or agency any power of an elected County officer, or change the method of election of the County Legislature, but not including decennial reapportionment, shall be subject to a permissive referendum.**

**Except in the instance where a general or special state law would necessitate such, a Charter amendment amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in Section 2.02 of the County Charter may only be enacted by a local law passed by a unanimous vote of the County Legislature, subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law.**

**Section 5. If any provision of this Local Law is held to be illegal or invalid for any reason, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions hereof, but such provision shall be fully severable and this Local Law shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had never been included.**

**Section 6. Pursuant to Section 34(5) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, this Local Law shall take effect sixty (60) days after its final enactment and is subject to permissive referendum.**

Legislator Addonizio \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Castellano \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Crowley \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Ellner \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Gouldman \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Montgomery \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Nacerino \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Sayegh \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman Jonke \_\_\_\_\_

THE PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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Ginny Nacerino	Dist. 4
Greg E. Ellner	Dist. 5
Paul E. Jonke	Dist. 6
Joseph Castellano	Dist. 7
Amy E. Sayegh	Dist. 8
Erin L. Crowley	Dist. 9

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Legislators

FROM: Paul Jonke  
Chairman, Putnam County Legislature

DATE: October 18, 2024

RE: Local Laws approved at Special Rules Meeting on October 8, 2024  
Strengthening Term Limit Provisions for Office of Putnam County Executive &  
Office of Putnam County Legislator

At the Special Meeting of the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee on October 8, 2024, two resolutions were approved: 1) a Local Law Strengthening the Term Limit Provisions for the Office of Putnam County Legislator; and 2) a Local Law Strengthening the Term Limit Provisions for the Office of Putnam County Executive.

Both local laws would amend Article 3, Section 3.04-B(d), and Article 15, Section 15.01 of the Putnam County Charter. Subsequent to the Committee's approval of the resolutions, I found that, if both local laws were enacted, the result could be that both sets of amendments made by the two local laws do not appear in the Charter when the amended Charter is published. That is, one set of amendments could be read to be replacing another set of amendments, which would not be the intent of the Legislature if it enacts both local laws.

I have therefore requested two small but important technical revisions be made to the wording in both resolutions that would ensure that if both resolutions are enacted, both sets of amendments to Section 3.04-B(d) and Section 15.01 will appear in Charter.

The resolutions approved by the Rules Committee read, in relevant part:

"Section 3. Article 3, Section 3.04-B(d) of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended to read as follows:"

and

"Section 4. Article 15, Section 15.01 of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended to read as follows:"

The revised resolutions (attached) read, in relevant part:



“Section 3. Article 3, Section 3.04-B(d) of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following paragraphs.”

and

“Section 4. Article 15, Section 15.01 of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following paragraphs.”

As you can see, the only change is replacing the “amended to read as follows:” wording with “amended by adding the following paragraphs:”. By making clear that each resolution is adding an amended Section 3.04-B(d) and an amended Section 15.01, both sets of amendments should appear in the Charter if both local laws are enacted.

These revised resolutions make no changes to the resulting Charter provisions that would be enacted, as approved by the Rules Committee. The only change to the resolutions are technical ones that determine how the provisions would appear in the Charter when they are published.

I intend to move to substitute these revised resolutions for the resolutions approved by the Rules Committee when the full Legislature takes up their consideration. For your convenience, I have also attached to this memorandum redline versions of the Charter sections as they would be amended by the resolutions moved forward by the Rules Committee.

A LOCAL LAW STRENGTHENING THE TERM LIMIT PROVISIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATOR.

**Section 1.** The Legislature of the County of Putnam, New York hereby makes the following findings and determinations:

(a) that Local Law No. 8 of 2013 (“Local Law No. 8”), enacted by the County Legislature on July 2, 2013, sets forth a term limits regime for the office of County Legislator which currently may be amended merely by the favorable vote of two-thirds of all the members of the County Legislature, subject to permissive referendum; and

(b) that a system of governmental term limits engenders transparency in government, promotes the accountability of public officials, and increases public trust, as well as provides for the opportunity for new voices and new ideas to be heard; and

(c) that in order to engender transparency in government, promote accountability, and to increase public trust, this County Legislature is desirous of requiring a unanimous vote of the County Legislature in order to amend, modify or repeal term limits for the office of County Legislator; and

(d) that this County Legislature finds and determines that this Local Law changes its voting power and curtails its power relative to the amending, modifying or repealing of the term limits procedures of the County Legislature by increasing the number of affirmative votes necessary of the County Legislature in order to amend, modify or repeal the term limits procedures of the office of County Legislator, and

(e) that this County Legislature hereby finds and determines that this Local Law embraces only one subject: that of the term of the office of County Legislator,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF PUTNAM AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 2.** Article 2, Section 2.02 of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended to read as follows:

A. The County Legislators shall be elected for terms of three (3) years at the general elections hereinafter provided and every three (3) years thereafter as follows:

(1) At the general election held in November of 2026, County Legislators from Legislative Districts Two, Three and Eight shall be elected for said term of three years.

(2) At the general election held in November of 2027, County Legislators from Legislative Districts One, Four and Seven shall be elected for said term of three years.

(3) At the general election held in November of 2025, County Legislators from Legislative Districts Five, Six and Nine shall be elected for said term of three years.

B. With the exception of a partial term, the County Legislators shall serve a maximum of four (4) terms.

C. With the exception of a partial term, in no instance may a Legislator serve more than four terms or 12 years, whichever is less.

D. Except in the instance where a general or special state law would otherwise necessitate, amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in this Section 2.02 may only be accomplished by the enactment of a local law adopted by the County Legislature by a unanimous vote of the whole of its number, subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law.

**Section 3.** Article 3, Section 3.04-B(d) of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following paragraphs:

(d) Reconsideration.

Except as otherwise set forth in this Section 3.04-B, a vetoed enactment shall be resubmitted to the County Legislature together with the veto message at its next regular or special meeting, and such message shall be entered into its Book of Proceedings. Within thirty (30) days after such receipt and entry, the County Legislature may reconsider the vetoed enactment and pass the same over the County Executive's objections by a favorable vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the whole of its number on a roll-call vote. Only one such reconsideration vote shall be taken on any single vetoed enactment.

Other than the veto of an enactment necessitated by the passage of a general or special state law, a vetoed enactment amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in Section 2.02 of the County Charter shall be resubmitted to the County Legislature together with the veto message at its next regular or special meeting, and such message shall be entered into its Book of Proceedings. Within thirty (30) days after such receipt and entry, the County Legislature may reconsider the vetoed enactment and pass the same over the County Executive's objections by a unanimous vote of the whole of its number on a roll-call vote. Only one such reconsideration vote shall be taken on any single vetoed enactment.

**Section 4.** Article 15, Section 15.01 of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following paragraphs:

Except as otherwise set forth in this Section 15.01, a Charter amendment may be proposed by a member of the County Legislature, the County Executive or the Legislative bodies of any of the towns or villages of the County. The proposal must then be enacted by a local law passed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the County Legislature subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law. Any proposed amendment which would have the effect of transferring a function or duty of the County or of a town, village, district or other unit of local government of the County shall not become operative unless it is approved by mandatory referendum. Any amendment which would create or abolish an elected office; change the power of an elected County officer during his or her term of office; abolish, curtail or transfer to another County officer or agency any power of an elected County officer, or change the method of election

of the County Legislature, but not including decennial reapportionment, shall be subject to a permissive referendum.

Except in the instance where a general or special state law would necessitate such, a Charter amendment amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in Section 2.02 of the County Charter may only be enacted by a local law passed by a unanimous vote of the County Legislature, subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law.

**Section 5.** If any provision of this Local Law is held to be illegal or invalid for any reason, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions hereof, but such provision shall be fully severable and this Local Law shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had never been included.

**Section 6.** Pursuant to Section 34(5) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, this Local Law shall take effect sixty (60) days after its final enactment and is subject to permissive referendum.

§ 2.02 Term.

A. The County Legislators shall be elected for terms of three (3) years at the general elections hereinafter provided and every three (3) years thereafter as follows:

(1) At the general election held in November of ~~2002~~2026, County Legislators from Legislative Districts Two, Three and Eight shall be elected for said term of three years.

(2) At the general election held in November of ~~2003~~2027, County Legislators from Legislative Districts One, Four and Seven shall be elected for said term of three years.

(3) At the general election held in November of ~~2004~~2025, County Legislators from Legislative Districts Five, Six and Nine shall be elected for said term of three years.

B. With the exception of a partial term, the County Legislators shall serve a maximum of four (4) terms.

~~B. The County Legislators shall serve a maximum of four (4) terms, regardless of the fact that a "term" may not have been three (3) years, and whether or not consecutive, in his/her lifetime.~~

~~C. For the purposes of this Section, the service of any portion of a term, no matter how small, shall be considered a full term.~~

~~DC. In~~ With the exception of a partial term, in no instance may a Legislator serve more than four terms or 12 years, whichever is less.

~~E. Any person serving more than four (4) terms or twelve (12) years as a Legislator at the time of the adoption of this local law, shall be permitted to run for one (1) additional three (3) year term.~~

D. Except in the instance where a general or special state law would otherwise necessitate, amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in this Section 2.02 may only be accomplished by the enactment of a local law adopted by the County Legislature by a unanimous vote of the whole of its number, subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law.

§ 3.04-B Executive action on local laws.

(d) Reconsideration. A

Except as otherwise set forth in this Section 3.04-B, a vetoed enactment shall be resubmitted to the County Legislature together with the veto message at its next regular or special meeting, and such message shall be entered into its Book of Proceedings. Within thirty (30) days after such receipt and entry, the County Legislature may reconsider the vetoed enactment and pass the same over the County Executive's objections by a favorable vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the whole of its number on a roll-call vote. Only one such reconsideration vote shall be taken on any single vetoed enactment.

Other than the veto of an enactment necessitated by the passage of a general or special state law, a vetoed enactment amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in Section 2.02 of the County Charter shall be resubmitted to the County Legislature together with the veto message at its next regular or special meeting, and such message shall be entered into its Book of Proceedings. Within thirty (30) days after such receipt and entry, the County Legislature may reconsider the vetoed enactment and pass the same over the County Executive's objections by a unanimous vote of the whole of its number on a roll-call vote. Only one such reconsideration vote shall be taken on any single vetoed enactment.

§ 15.01 Amendment of the Charter.

AExcept as otherwise set forth in this Section 15.01, a Charter amendment may be proposed by a member of the County Legislature, the County Executive or the Legislative bodies of any of the towns or villages of the County. The proposal must then be enacted by a local law passed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the County Legislature subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law. Any proposed amendment which would have the effect of transferring a function or duty of the County or of a town, village, district or other unit of local government of the County shall not become operative unless it is approved by mandatory referendum. Any amendment which would create or abolish an elected office; change the power of an elected County officer during his or her term of office; abolish, curtail or transfer to another County officer or agency any power of an elected County officer, or change the method of election of the County Legislature, but not including decennial reapportionment, shall be subject to a permissive referendum.

Except in the instance where a general or special state law would necessitate such, a Charter amendment amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in Section 2.02 of the County Charter may only be enacted by a local law passed by a unanimous vote of the County Legislature, subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Committee Mtg \_\_\_\_\_ Resolution # \_\_\_\_\_  
Introduced By \_\_\_\_\_ Regular Mtg \_\_\_\_\_  
Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_ Special Mtg \_\_\_\_\_

**A LOCAL LAW STRENGTHENING THE TERM LIMIT PROVISIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF PUTNAM COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

**Section 1. The Legislature of the County of Putnam, New York hereby makes the following findings and determinations:**

**(a) that Local Law No. 8 of 2011 ("Local Law No. 8"), enacted by the County Legislature on January 4, 2011, sets forth a term limits regime for the office of County Executive which currently may be amended merely by the favorable vote of two-thirds of all the members of the County Legislature, subject to permissive referendum; and**

**(b) that a system of governmental term limits engenders transparency in government, promotes the accountability of public officials, and increases public trust, as well as provides for the opportunity for new voices and new ideas to be heard; and**

**(c) that in order to engender transparency in government, promote accountability, and to increase public trust, this County Legislature is desirous of requiring a unanimous vote of the County Legislature in order to amend, modify or repeal term limits for the office of County Executive; and**

**(d) that this County Legislature finds and determines that this Local Law changes its voting power and curtails its power relative to the amending, modifying or repealing of the term limits procedures of the County Executive by increasing the number of affirmative votes necessary of the County Legislature in order to amend, modify or repeal the term limits procedures of the office of County Executive, and**

**(e) that this County Legislature hereby finds and determines that this Local Law embraces only one subject: that of the term of the office of County Executive,**

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF PUTNAM AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 2. Article 3, Section 3.01 of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding a second paragraph to such Section:**

Legislator Addonizio \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Castellano \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Crowley \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Ellner \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Gouldman \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Montgomery \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Nacerino \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Sayegh \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman Jonke \_\_\_\_\_

Except in the instance where a general or special state law would otherwise necessitate, amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in this Section 3.01 may only be accomplished by the enactment of a local law adopted by the County Legislature by a unanimous vote of the whole of its number, subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 3. Article 3, Section 3.04-B(d) of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following paragraphs:

**(d) Reconsideration.**

Except as otherwise set forth in this Section 3.04-B, a vetoed enactment shall be resubmitted to the County Legislature together with the veto message at its next regular or special meeting, and such message shall be entered into its Book of Proceedings. Within thirty (30) days after such receipt and entry, the County Legislature may reconsider the vetoed enactment and pass the same over the County Executive's objections by a favorable vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the whole of its number on a roll-call vote. Only one such reconsideration vote shall be taken on any single vetoed enactment.

Other than the veto of an enactment necessitated by the passage of a general or special state law, a vetoed enactment amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in Section 3.01 of the County Charter shall be resubmitted to the County Legislature together with the veto message at its next regular or special meeting, and such message shall be entered into its Book of Proceedings. Within thirty (30) days after such receipt and entry, the County Legislature may reconsider the vetoed enactment and pass the same over the County Executive's objections by a unanimous vote of the whole of its number on a roll-call vote. Only one such reconsideration vote shall be taken on any single vetoed enactment.

Section 4. Article 15, Section 15.01 of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following paragraphs:

Except as otherwise set forth in this Section 15.01, a Charter amendment may be proposed by a member of the County Legislature, the County Executive or the Legislative bodies of any of the towns or villages of the County. The proposal must then be enacted by a local law passed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the County Legislature subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law. Any proposed amendment which would have the effect of transferring a function or duty of the County or of a town, village, district or other unit of local government of the County shall not become operative unless it is approved by mandatory referendum. Any amendment which would create or abolish an elected office; change the power of an elected County officer during his or her term of office; abolish, curtail or transfer to another County officer or agency any power of an elected County officer, or change the method of election of the County Legislature, but not including decennial reapportionment, shall be subject to a permissive referendum.

Except in the instance where a general or special state law would necessitate such, a Charter amendment amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in Section 3.01 of the County Charter may only be enacted by a local law passed by a unanimous vote of the County Legislature, subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law.



**Section 5. If any provision of this Local Law is held to be illegal or invalid for any reason, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions hereof, but such provision shall be fully severable and this Local Law shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had never been included.**

**Section 6. Pursuant to Section 34(5) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, this Local Law shall take effect sixty (60) days after its final enactment and is subject to permissive referendum.**

Remove  
AS 2nd GE TA  
AIF #60

Committee Mtg \_\_\_\_\_ Resolution # \_\_\_\_\_  
Introduced By \_\_\_\_\_ Regular Mtg 2/6/29  
Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_ Special Mtg \_\_\_\_\_

**A LOCAL LAW STRENGTHENING THE TERM LIMIT PROVISIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF PUTNAM COUNTY EXECUTIVE.**

**Section 1. The Legislature of the County of Putnam, New York hereby makes the following findings and determinations:**

**(a) that Local Law No. 8 of 2011 ("Local Law No. 8"), enacted by the County Legislature on January 4, 2011, sets forth a term limits regime for the office of County Executive which currently may be amended merely by the favorable vote of two-thirds of all the members of the County Legislature, subject to permissive referendum; and**

**(b) that a system of governmental term limits engenders transparency in government, promotes the accountability of public officials, and increases public trust, as well as provides for the opportunity for new voices and new ideas to be heard; and**

**(c) that in order to engender transparency in government, promote accountability, and to increase public trust, this County Legislature is desirous of requiring a unanimous vote of the County Legislature in order to amend, modify or repeal term limits for the office of County Executive; and**

**(d) that this County Legislature finds and determines that this Local Law changes its voting power and curtails its power relative to the amending, modifying or repealing of the term limits procedures of the County Executive by increasing the number of affirmative votes necessary of the County Legislature in order to amend, modify or repeal the term limits procedures of the office of County Executive, and**

**(e) that this County Legislature hereby finds and determines that this Local Law embraces only one subject: that of the term of the office of County Executive,**

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF PUTNAM AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 2. Article 3, Section 3.01 of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding a second paragraph to such Section:**

Legislator Addonizio \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Castellano \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Crowley \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Ellner \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Gouldman \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Montgomery \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Nacerino \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Sayegh \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman Jonke \_\_\_\_\_

Except in the instance where a general or special state law would otherwise necessitate, amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in this Section 3.01 may only be accomplished by the enactment of a local law adopted by the County Legislature by a unanimous vote of the whole of its number, subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 3. Article 3, Section 3.04-B(d) of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following paragraphs:

(d) Reconsideration.

Except as otherwise set forth in this Section 3.04-B, a vetoed enactment shall be resubmitted to the County Legislature together with the veto message at its next regular or special meeting, and such message shall be entered into its Book of Proceedings. Within thirty (30) days after such receipt and entry, the County Legislature may reconsider the vetoed enactment and pass the same over the County Executive's objections by a favorable vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the whole of its number on a roll-call vote. Only one such reconsideration vote shall be taken on any single vetoed enactment.

Other than the veto of an enactment necessitated by the passage of a general or special state law, a vetoed enactment amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in Section 3.01 of the County Charter shall be resubmitted to the County Legislature together with the veto message at its next regular or special meeting, and such message shall be entered into its Book of Proceedings. Within thirty (30) days after such receipt and entry, the County Legislature may reconsider the vetoed enactment and pass the same over the County Executive's objections by a unanimous vote of the whole of its number on a roll-call vote. Only one such reconsideration vote shall be taken on any single vetoed enactment.

Section 4. Article 15, Section 15.01 of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following paragraphs:

Except as otherwise set forth in this Section 15.01, a Charter amendment may be proposed by a member of the County Legislature, the County Executive or the Legislative bodies of any of the towns or villages of the County. The proposal must then be enacted by a local law passed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the County Legislature subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law. Any proposed amendment which would have the effect of transferring a function or duty of the County or of a town, village, district or other unit of local government of the County shall not become operative unless it is approved by mandatory referendum. Any amendment which would create or abolish an elected office; change the power of an elected County officer during his or her term of office; abolish, curtail or transfer to another County officer or agency any power of an elected County officer, or change the method of election of the County Legislature, but not including decennial reapportionment, shall be subject to a permissive referendum.

Except in the instance where a general or special state law would necessitate such, a Charter amendment amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in Section 3.01 of the County Charter may only be enacted by a local law passed by a unanimous vote of the County Legislature, subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law.

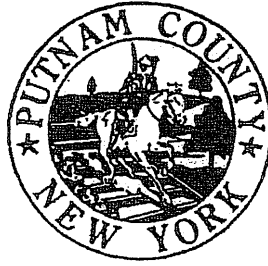
**Section 5. If any provision of this Local Law is held to be illegal or invalid for any reason, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions hereof, but such provision shall be fully severable and this Local Law shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had never been included.**

**Section 6. Pursuant to Section 34(5) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, this Local Law shall take effect sixty (60) days after its final enactment and is subject to permissive referendum.**

THE PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE

40 Gleneida Avenue  
Carmel, New York 10512  
(845) 808-1020 Fax (845) 808-1933

Paul E. Jonke *Chairman*  
Amy E. Sayegh *Deputy Chair*  
Diane Schonfeld *Clerk*  
Robert Firriolo *Counsel*



Nancy Montgomery	Dist. 1
William Gouldman	Dist. 2
Toni E. Addonizio	Dist. 3
Ginny Nacerino	Dist. 4
Greg E. Ellner	Dist. 5
Paul E. Jonke	Dist. 6
Joseph Castellano	Dist. 7
Amy E. Sayegh	Dist. 8
Erin L. Crowley	Dist. 9

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Legislators

FROM: Paul Jonke  
Chairman, Putnam County Legislature

DATE: October 18, 2024

RE: Local Laws approved at Special Rules Meeting on October 8, 2024  
Strengthening Term Limit Provisions for Office of Putnam County Executive &  
Office of Putnam County Legislator

At the Special Meeting of the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee on October 8, 2024, two resolutions were approved: 1) a Local Law Strengthening the Term Limit Provisions for the Office of Putnam County Legislator; and 2) a Local Law Strengthening the Term Limit Provisions for the Office of Putnam County Executive.

Both local laws would amend Article 3, Section 3.04-B(d), and Article 15, Section 15.01 of the Putnam County Charter. Subsequent to the Committee's approval of the resolutions, I found that, if both local laws were enacted, the result could be that both sets of amendments made by the two local laws do not appear in the Charter when the amended Charter is published. That is, one set of amendments could be read to be replacing another set of amendments, which would not be the intent of the Legislature if it enacts both local laws.

I have therefore requested two small but important technical revisions be made to the wording in both resolutions that would ensure that if both resolutions are enacted, both sets of amendments to Section 3.04-B(d) and Section 15.01 will appear in Charter.

The resolutions approved by the Rules Committee read, in relevant part:

"Section 3. Article 3, Section 3.04-B(d) of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended to read as follows:"

and

"Section 4. Article 15, Section 15.01 of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended to read as follows:"

The revised resolutions (attached) read, in relevant part:

“Section 3. Article 3, Section 3.04-B(d) of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following paragraphs:”

and

“Section 4. Article 15, Section 15.01 of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following paragraphs:”

As you can see, the only change is replacing the “amended to read as follows:” wording with “amended by adding the following paragraphs:”. By making clear that each resolution is adding an amended Section 3.04-B(d) and an amended Section 15.01, both sets of amendments should appear in the Charter if both local laws are enacted.

These revised resolutions make no changes to the resulting Charter provisions that would be enacted, as approved by the Rules Committee. The only change to the resolutions are technical ones that determine how the provisions would appear in the Charter when they are published.

I intend to move to substitute these revised resolutions for the resolutions approved by the Rules Committee when the full Legislature takes up their consideration. For your convenience, I have also attached to this memorandum redline versions of the Charter sections as they would be amended by the resolutions moved forward by the Rules Committee.

A LOCAL LAW STRENGTHENING THE TERM LIMIT PROVISIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF PUTNAM COUNTY EXECUTIVE.

**Section 1.** The Legislature of the County of Putnam, New York hereby makes the following findings and determinations:

(a) that Local Law No. 8 of 2011 (“Local Law No. 8”), enacted by the County Legislature on January 4, 2011, sets forth a term limits regime for the office of County Executive which currently may be amended merely by the favorable vote of two-thirds of all the members of the County Legislature, subject to permissive referendum; and

(b) that a system of governmental term limits engenders transparency in government, promotes the accountability of public officials, and increases public trust, as well as provides for the opportunity for new voices and new ideas to be heard; and

(c) that in order to engender transparency in government, promote accountability, and to increase public trust, this County Legislature is desirous of requiring a unanimous vote of the County Legislature in order to amend, modify or repeal term limits for the office of County Executive; and

(d) that this County Legislature finds and determines that this Local Law changes its voting power and curtails its power relative to the amending, modifying or repealing of the term limits procedures of the County Executive by increasing the number of affirmative votes necessary of the County Legislature in order to amend, modify or repeal the term limits procedures of the office of County Executive, and

(e) that this County Legislature hereby finds and determines that this Local Law embraces only one subject: that of the term of the office of County Executive,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF PUTNAM AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 2.** Article 3, Section 3.01 of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding a second paragraph to such Section:

Except in the instance where a general or special state law would otherwise necessitate, amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in this Section 3.01 may only be accomplished by the enactment of a local law adopted by the County Legislature by a unanimous vote of the whole of its number, subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law.

**Section 3.** Article 3, Section 3.04-B(d) of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following paragraphs:

(d) Reconsideration.

Except as otherwise set forth in this Section 3.04-B, a vetoed enactment shall be resubmitted to the County Legislature together with the veto message at its next regular or special meeting, and such message shall be entered into its Book of Proceedings. Within thirty (30) days after such

receipt and entry, the County Legislature may reconsider the vetoed enactment and pass the same over the County Executive's objections by a favorable vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the whole of its number on a roll-call vote. Only one such reconsideration vote shall be taken on any single vetoed enactment.

Other than the veto of an enactment necessitated by the passage of a general or special state law, a vetoed enactment amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in Section 3.01 of the County Charter shall be resubmitted to the County Legislature together with the veto message at its next regular or special meeting, and such message shall be entered into its Book of Proceedings. Within thirty (30) days after such receipt and entry, the County Legislature may reconsider the vetoed enactment and pass the same over the County Executive's objections by a unanimous vote of the whole of its number on a roll-call vote. Only one such reconsideration vote shall be taken on any single vetoed enactment.

**Section 4.** Article 15, Section 15.01 of the Putnam County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following paragraphs:

Except as otherwise set forth in this Section 15.01, a Charter amendment may be proposed by a member of the County Legislature, the County Executive or the Legislative bodies of any of the towns or villages of the County. The proposal must then be enacted by a local law passed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the County Legislature subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law. Any proposed amendment which would have the effect of transferring a function or duty of the County or of a town, village, district or other unit of local government of the County shall not become operative unless it is approved by mandatory referendum. Any amendment which would create or abolish an elected office; change the power of an elected County officer during his or her term of office; abolish, curtail or transfer to another County officer or agency any power of an elected County officer, or change the method of election of the County Legislature, but not including decennial reapportionment, shall be subject to a permissive referendum.

Except in the instance where a general or special state law would necessitate such, a Charter amendment amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in Section 3.01 of the County Charter may only be enacted by a local law passed by a unanimous vote of the County Legislature, subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law.

**Section 5.** If any provision of this Local Law is held to be illegal or invalid for any reason, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions hereof, but such provision shall be fully severable and this Local Law shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had never been included.

**Section 6.** Pursuant to Section 34(5) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, this Local Law shall take effect sixty (60) days after its final enactment and is subject to permissive referendum.



§ 3.01 Chief Executive Officer: election; term; qualifications.

The County Executive shall be elected from the County at large in an even numbered year for a term of four (4) years commencing on the first day of January immediately following his or her election. He or she shall serve a maximum two (2) consecutive full terms. At the time of nomination and election, the County Executive shall be, and he or she shall remain, a qualified elector of Putnam County. He or she shall hold no other elected public or elected political office during his or her term and shall devote his or her full working time to the duties of the office. He or she shall be the highest paid salaried County employee with the exception of those County employees required to be duly licensed to practice medicine in the State of New York as a qualification of employment, the District Attorney or any other employee whose salary is partially or fully set by state law. The compensation of the County Executive shall not be decreased during his or her term of office.

Except in the instance where a general or special state law would otherwise necessitate, amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in this Section 3.01 may only be accomplished by the enactment of a local law adopted by the County Legislature by a unanimous vote of the whole of its number, subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law.

§ 3.04-B Executive action on local laws.

(d) Reconsideration. ~~A~~

Except as otherwise set forth in this Section 3.04-B, a vetoed enactment shall be resubmitted to the County Legislature together with the veto message at its next regular or special meeting, and such message shall be entered into its Book of Proceedings. Within thirty (30) days after such receipt and entry, the County Legislature may reconsider the vetoed enactment and pass the same over the County Executive's objections by a favorable vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the whole of its number on a roll-call vote. Only one such reconsideration vote shall be taken on any single vetoed enactment.

Other than the veto of an enactment necessitated by the passage of a general or special state law, a vetoed enactment amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in Section 3.01 of the County Charter shall be resubmitted to the County Legislature together with the veto message at its next regular or special meeting, and such message shall be entered into its Book of Proceedings. Within thirty (30) days after such receipt and entry, the County Legislature may reconsider the vetoed enactment and pass the same over the County Executive's objections by a unanimous vote of the whole of its number on a roll-call vote. Only one such reconsideration vote shall be taken on any single vetoed enactment.

§ 15.01 Amendment of the Charter.

~~A~~Except as otherwise set forth in this Section 15.01, a Charter amendment may be proposed by a member of the County Legislature, the County Executive or the Legislative bodies of any of the towns or villages of the County. The proposal must then be enacted by a local law passed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the County Legislature subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law. Any proposed amendment which would have the effect of transferring a function or duty of the County or of a town, village, district or other unit of local government of the County shall not become operative unless it is approved by mandatory referendum. Any amendment which would create or abolish an elected office; change the power of an elected County officer during his or her term of office; abolish, curtail or transfer to another County officer or agency any power of an elected County officer, or change the method of election of the County Legislature, but not including decennial reapportionment, shall be subject to a permissive referendum.

Except in the instance where a general or special state law would necessitate such, a Charter amendment amending, modifying or repealing the term limit provisions as set forth in Section 3.01 of the County Charter may only be enacted by a local law passed by a unanimous vote of the County Legislature, subject to referendum on petition as provided in the Municipal Home Rule Law.

#6a

Committee Mtg \_\_\_\_\_ Resolution # \_\_\_\_\_  
Introduced By \_\_\_\_\_ Regular Mtg \_\_\_\_\_  
Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_ Special Mtg \_\_\_\_\_

**RECONSIDERATION - 2025 BUDGET RESOLUTION #266 OF 2024 – LAW DEPARTMENT –  
REMOVE SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR SENIOR DEPUTY COUNTY ATTORNEY - VETOED  
BY COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

**RESOLVED, that the County Executive’s veto of Budget Resolution #266 of 2024  
removing the \$5,000 Salary Adjustment for the Senior Deputy County Attorney in the Law  
Department, after Legislative reconsideration, is hereby overridden.**

Legislator Addonizio \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Castellano \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Crowley \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Ellner \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Gouldman \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Montgomery \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Nacerino \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislator Sayegh \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman Jonke \_\_\_\_\_

PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Resolution #266

Introduced by Legislator: Paul Jonke on behalf of the Budget & Finance Committee at a Special Meeting held on October 29, 2024.

page 1

**Law Department**

	FROM:	TO:
<b>Senior Deputy County Attorney</b> <b>10142000 51000 (919)</b> (Remove Salary Adjustment)	<b>5,000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>FICA</b> <b>10142000 58002</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>0</b>

**A DIFFERENCE OF: (5,383)**

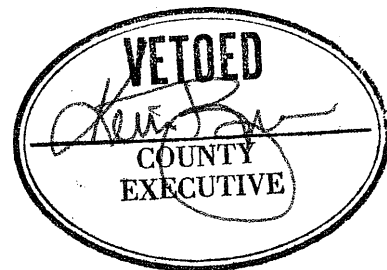
**Adjust fringes & revenue accordingly.**

**BY ROLL CALL VOTE: FIVE AYES. TWO NAYS – LEGISLATORS GOULDMAN & MONTGOMERY. LEGISLATORS CROWLEY & NACERINO WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

State of New York

ss:

County of Putnam



**I hereby certify that the above is a true and exact copy of a resolution passed by the Putnam County Legislature while in session on October 29, 2024.**

Dated: November 1, 2024

Signed: Diane Schonfeld

**Diane Schonfeld**  
Clerk of the Legislature of Putnam County



PUTNAM COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
KEVIN M. BYRNE

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Diane Schonfeld, Clerk  
Putnam County Legislature

CC: The Putnam County Legislature

FROM: Kevin M. Byrne  
County Executive

DATE: November 8, 2024

RE: **Veto of Resolution # 266 of 2024, Removal of Salary Adjustment for Senior Deputy County Attorney (Law Department)**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "K. Byrne", is written over a large, loopy oval scribble.

---

Please be advised that I am vetoing Resolution #266 of 2024. The Administration maintains that the request in the Tentative Budget was well-justified and merited.

The adjustment reflected in the tentative budget supports an existing part-time position which had created a significant savings this past year by replacing what was once a full-time Senior Deputy County Attorney position. The adjustment was also based on a comparative review of other attorney positions within the County, including but not limited to, part-time Assistant District Attorney positions which are compensated significantly more (even after the proposed increase in the tentative budget).

Salary adjustments should be determined based on the position, duties, experience, and performance, but not on any one particular individual.

In this instance, a reasonable inference can be drawn from the Legislature's actions that it has focused on one specific individual by singling out only one salary adjustment in the entire Putnam County Budget. Therefore, I must respond to highlight this particular attorney's performance for Putnam County. The part-time Senior Deputy County Attorney affected by this Resolution brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Law Department. It is well-documented that her skills, dedication and commitment to detail have already greatly benefited the County in several, significant legal matters.

These legal matters include previously serving as outside counsel, when this attorney represented Putnam County and successfully defended against New York City's lawsuit regarding the relocation of homeless migrants in 2023 – a matter which was dismissed in its entirety. This attorney also resolved the contract dispute matter involving the potential sale of 34 Gleneida Avenue (*Putnam County v. Voutsinas*).

Most recently and more notably, is this Senior Deputy County Attorney's critical role in working with the County Attorney, Risk and NYMIR, the County's municipal insurer, with negotiations that secured a recent settlement in the *Krivak* matter, which passed the Legislature earlier this week. This particular settlement had the effect of saving the County tens of millions of dollars, especially given previous concerns surrounding the County's insurance coverage. This Senior Deputy County Attorney's work on this matter alone justifies the adjustment presented in the tentative budget.

The modification presented by the Legislature in this Resolution cuts compensation from this one employee. The modification was not justified and highlights what seems to be an unfair bias against an individual in the Law Department. Accordingly, I request that the Legislature strongly reconsider its decision on this matter.

For all the reasons stated above, I hereby **VETO** Resolution #266.