

LOCAL LAW NO. ___ - 2026

AMENDING THE ONONDAGA COUNTY CHARTER TO ESTABLISH TERM LIMITS FOR THE OFFICE OF THE ONONDAGA COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND THE OFFICE OF THE ONONDAGA COUNTY COMPTROLLER

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF ONONDAGA COUNTY, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Purpose.

To amend the Onondaga County Charter to limit the number of consecutive terms that a person can serve as County Executive, and to limit the number of consecutive terms that a person can serve as County Comptroller.

Section 2. Onondaga County Charter Amendments.

- (a) The Onondaga County Charter, being Local Law No. 1 of 1961, as amended, hereby is amended to add the following final paragraph to Section 301:

Section 301. THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE; ELECTION; TERM; QUALIFICATIONS.

Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in this Charter or the Administrative Code, no person shall serve as County Executive for more than four (4) consecutive four-year terms. Years served prior to January 1, 2031, shall not be counted in calculating the number of consecutive terms a County Executive has served. Service for partial term as County Executive shall not be counted in calculating the four (4) consecutive four-year terms.

- (b) The Onondaga County Charter, being Local Law No. 1 of 1961, as amended, hereby is amended to add the following final paragraph to Section 501:

Section 501. DEPARTMENT OF AUDIT AND CONTROL; COMPTROLLER; ELECTION; AUDITOR'S ACT REPEALED.

Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in this Charter or the Administrative Code, no person shall serve as County Comptroller for more than four (4) consecutive four-year terms. Years served prior to January 1, 2031, shall not be counted in calculating the number of consecutive terms a County Comptroller has served. Service for partial term as County Comptroller shall not be counted in calculating the four (4) consecutive four-year terms.

Section 3. Onondaga County Administrative Code Amendments.

Section 5.01 of the Onondaga County Administrative Code is hereby amended to add to the following sentence to the end of the first paragraph:

Section 5.01. DEPARTMENT OF AUDIT AND CONTROL; COMPTROLLER; ELECTION; TERM; QUALIFICATIONS.

The Comptroller shall serve subject to the conditions and for the term prescribed in Section 501 of the Charter.

Section 4. Submission to Electors.

This Local Law shall be submitted to the electors of Onondaga County at the next general election occurring on November 3, 2026.

Section 5. Proposition.

The form of the proposition to be submitted to the electors of Onondaga County shall be as follows:

(a) Descriptive Title:

ESTABLISHING TERM LIMITS FOR THE OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND THE OFFICE OF COUNTY COMPTROLLER.

(b) Ballot Proposal Text Summary: “Establishing a limit of four (4) consecutive four-year terms for the office of County Executive and the office of County Comptroller.”

(c) Voting:

Voting “Yes” sets term limits of four (4) consecutive four-year terms for the office of County Executive and the office of County Comptroller.

Voting “No” keeps the offices without term limits.

Section 6. Severability.

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this Local Law shall be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, the judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which the judgment shall have been rendered..

Section 7. Effective Date.

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon approval of the electors of Onondaga County, pursuant to the provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law.