

MAURICE CHALMERS
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BUDGET REVIEW



NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE
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Inter-Departmental Memo

To: Hon. Richard Nicoletto, Presiding Officer
Hon. Kevan Abrahams, Minority Leader
All Members of the Nassau County Legislature

From: Maurice Chalmers, Director
Office of Legislative Budget Review

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "M. Chalmers", written over the name of the sender.

Date: February 4, 2022

Re: Clerk Item 23-22

Attached is a copy of the Fiscal Impact Statement for the Legislative Calendar for the February 7 hearing.

23-22: A Local Law relating to the readjustment or alteration of County legislative districts subsequent to the decennial Federal Census of 2020.



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

TITLE: A Local Law relating to the readjustment or alteration of County legislative districts subsequent to the decennial Federal Census of 2020.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION:

County Government Law requires the Legislature to describe the 19 County legislative districts within six months after public announcement of the enumeration of the inhabitants of Nassau County in the decennial federal census. The public announcement occurred on August 12, 2021 and the Legislature must adopt a Local Law describing the 19 County Legislative districts by February 12, 2022. In *Yatauro, et. al. v. Mangano, et. al.*, the Court of Appeals of the State of Appeals of the State of New York declared that Section 112 of the County Government Law of Nassau County serves as the initial step of an integrated redistricting process that includes consideration of the recommendations of a temporary districting advisory commission with public input pursuant to Section 113 of the County Government Law of Nassau County and culminates in the adoption of a redistricting plan pursuant to the provision of Section 114 of the County Government Law of Nassau County. The Legislature adopted Local Law 15-2001, which retained the metes and bounds description of the 19 legislative districts.

In accordance with *Yatauro, et. al. v. Mangano, et. al.* and consistent with the practice established by this Legislature in 2001, this Legislature shall complete the initial step of the redistricting process pursuant to Section 112 of the County Government Law of Nassau, retain the existing metes and bounds description of the 19 legislative districts, establish a temporary districting advisory commission as required by Section 113 of the County Government Law of Nassau County and pursuant to Section 114 of the Count Government Law of Nassau County, adopt a final plan for the redistricting of the County Legislature that is required to meet all constitutional and statutory requirements. This Local Law is the initial step of the redistricting process pursuant to Section 112 of the County Government Law of Nassau.

Annex A of the County Government Law of Nassau County, as created by Local Law 11-1994 and as last amended by Local Law 2-2013, is amended to include the metes and bounds described and be subject to further readjustment and alteration as may be necessary to comply with the legal and constitutional requirements for equal representation in the County Legislature for the residents of Nassau County. Before adopting a final plan for redistricting, the County Legislature will follow the procedures set forth in Section 113 and 114 of the County Government Law of Nassau County.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

This Local Law shall take effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The redistricting process will be done in three procedural steps. The first step is the approval process, and it won't be until the second and third procedural steps when costs will be incurred. Expenses will include printing, mailings, and consulting fees.

In anticipation of these costs, there is approximately \$1.0 million budgeted for this purpose in the Clerk of the Legislature's Office Other Than Personnel Services (OTPS) lines to cover expenses. In addition, the County Attorney's Office estimates that expenses associated with the re-districting process, such as retaining certain experts to provide guidance in the process, will not be significant and will be absorbed within their FY 2022 budgeted appropriations.

The Office of Legislative Budget Review (OLBR) consulted with the Nassau County Board of Elections (BOE) on whether they would incur expenses related to redistricting. The Board is run by a bipartisan representation of the two major parties. Separate from the Clerk's Office, according to BOE, they expect costs of approximately \$672,356 for printing and graphics, \$4,000 for mapping software, and \$560 for mileage.

The Redistricting process and related expenses were expected and taken into account when the FY 2022 budget was drafted.

ECONOMIC IMPACT:

The Proposed Local Law is not expected to have an economic impact on the local economy.

PREPARED BY: Lamartine Pierre Jr., Senior Legislative Budget Analyst

SOURCES:

County Attorney's Office
Board of Elections
County Legislature