

Council Member Anane introduced the following, which was approved:

LOCAL LAW D OF 2021

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF ALBANY TO PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL PAID SICK LEAVE

The City of Albany, in Common Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Section 301 (Mayor's Powers and Duties Generally.) of Article III (Executive Branch) of the Charter is here by amended by adding a new subsection J to read as follow:

J. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, where pursuant to the Executive Law, the Mayor issues an Emergency Proclamation that results in the mandatory quarantine for precautionary isolation of a City employee, the Mayor may provide for a period of leave during the mandatory quarantine or isolation period, if such employee is not otherwise able to carry out the functions and responsibilities of such job.

Section 2. This local law shall take effect upon passage, public hearing, and filing with the Secretary of State without referendum.

**APPROVED AS TO FORM THIS
MARCH 5, 2021**

Corporation Counsel

To: Danielle Gillespie, City Clerk
From: John-Raphael Pichardo, Esq., Research Counsel
Re: Common Council Legislation
Supporting Memorandum
Date: March 5, 2021

SPONSOR Council Member Anane

LOCAL LAW D OF 2021

TITLE

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF ALBANY TO PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL PAID SICK LEAVE

GENERAL PURPOSE OF LEGISLATION

Because paid sick leave is one of the most effective tools to protect public health and stop the spread of illnesses, the New York State legislature passed legislation providing for paid sick benefits, paid family leave, and benefits due to disability for employees subject to a mandatory or precautionary order of quarantine or isolation due to COVID-19. The state legislature and the Governor found that “[p]aid sick leave alleviates the financial pressure for the people that feel they must go to work to keep their job, curbing the spread of their illness to coworkers and commuters”. Further, “in light of the unprecedented nature of the COVID-19 outbreak and its impact on New York Workers” the state directed that municipal employees subject to a mandatory or precautionary order of quarantine or isolation must be provided with the one, 14-day paid sick leave event.

Certain City employees, including those who routinely come into contact with the public and cannot do their work from home if subject to a mandatory quarantine or isolation order, may find themselves subject to more than one mandatory quarantine or isolation period during this extended pandemic period. Further, given global climate change and increasing loss of habitat, it is likely that human contact with other uncontrollable and/or highly communicable diseases or viruses in the future may result in subsequent epidemics or pandemics making it necessary to quarantine employees in the future, to enable the continuation of City government and to protect public health.

NECESSITY FOR LEGISLATION AND CHANGES TO EXISTING LAW

The intent is to authorize the Mayor to provide additional periods of paid sick leave during a public health crisis or emergency where necessary to ensure the safe and continued operation of City government and to protect residents from communicable diseases, as allowed by New York State General Municipal Law § 92.

FISCAL IMPACT(S)

To be determined

Passed by the following vote of all the Council Members elected voting in favor thereof:

Local Law D was co-sponsored by Council Members Balarin, Farrell, Flynn, Frederick, Hoey, Igoe, Johnson, Kimbrough, Love, and Robinson

Affirmative – Anane, Balarin, Conti, Doeschate, Fahey, Farrell, Flynn, Frederick, Hoey, Igoe, Johnson, Kimbrough, Love, O’Brien, and Robinson

Affirmative 15 Negative 0 Abstain 0

Clerk of the Common Council

President of the Common Council

Mayor

Date

I, Danielle Gillespie, City Clerk and Clerk of the Common Council, do hereby certify that Local Law D was passed at a meeting of the Albany Common Council on December 20, 2021.

In Affirmation thereof, I hereto set my hand and affix The Seal of the City of Albany this ____ day of _____ 2021.

Clerk of the Common Council