

Councilman Panico Introduces Ethics Bill to Prohibit Political Executive Board Members from Serving on Town Industrial Development Agency

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Farmingville, NY - Shortly after his election in 2010, Brookhaven Town Councilman Dan Panico introduced and passed ethics reform legislation to preclude political chairpersons and their executive board members from serving in elected and appointed board capacity in Brookhaven Town. Councilman Panico also wrote the Town's landmark anti-nepotism law.

At today's work session, Councilman Panico will introduce legislation to amend the Town law to preclude such political executive chairpersons, and their executive board members, from serving on the Town's Industrial Development Agency (IDA) and Local Development Corporation (LDC) - Town organizations with the authority to grant tax incentives and breaks to retain and attract business and jobs to Brookhaven Town.

"New York State Comptroller DiNapoli's most recent annual audit report detailing that Long Island had the highest amount of tax exemptions of New York's 10 regions, totaling \$118 million dollars in 2012, is a clear indication that we must raise the bar, in both perception and reality," commented Brookhaven Town Councilman Dan Panico. "The bill that I have introduced will eliminate the possibility of political chairs and their executive committee board from serving as members of the entities charged with giving out substantial tax breaks and incentives for the purposes job growth and retention. Thankfully, the Town of Brookhaven does not have any such persons on our IDA/LDC - and after the hopeful passage of this law, we never will."

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