



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Michael Gianaris

## Senate Deputy Leader Gianaris Announces Senate Passes His Bill Reforming NY's Public Service Commission

MICHAEL GIANARIS May 22, 2019

| ISSUE: **PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, UTILITIES, CON ED, CHARTER, SPECTRUM**



ALBANY, N.Y. – Senate Deputy Leader Michael Gianaris announced the Senate passed his legislation creating a blue ribbon panel to recommend nominees to the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC), with specific criteria to be met by nominees. This legislation, if enacted, would bring more expert voices into the process of utility regulation.

“The PSC has huge power over everyday aspects of New Yorkers lives, making it critical that we establish a process to get the best possible commissioners,” said **Senate Deputy Leader Michael Gianaris**. “This bill ensures the most qualified and experienced experts would serve on the PSC.”

The legislation creates the Public Service Commission Nominating Board (PSCNB), comprised of utility experts, representatives of the public and different branches of government. The PSCNB would recommend four vetted, qualified nominees to the Governor for appointment and confirmation anytime a Commissioner’s term was expiring or when a vacancy otherwise occurs. To qualify, nominees would need experience in an area such as law, regulatory affairs, engineering, or consumer advocacy.

The PSC handles utility regulation pertaining to electric, water, natural gas, steam and telecommunications. Currently, there is one vacancy on the PSC board.

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#### RELATED LEGISLATION

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### 2019-S1283

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- Introduced
- ○ In Committee Assembly
  - In Committee Senate
- ○ On Floor Calendar Assembly

- On Floor Calendar Senate

- ◦ Passed Assembly

- Passed Senate

- Delivered to Governor

- Signed By Governor

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Establishes a public service commission nominating board to make recommendations of persons qualified for appointment as commissioners of the public service commission

January 14, 2019

In Senate Committee [Energy and Telecommunications](#)

Sponsored by [Michael Gianaris](#)

Do you support this bill?