

Davis, Evan A. to me

9:38 AM

Dear Commissioners,

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At the general election in November of next year the voters will decide whether to call a Constitutional Convention. If called, the Convention when it convenes in April 2019 will likely take up the question of whether members of the Legislature should serve on a full time basis and may consider whether New York should shift to a unicameral legislature in as much as the primary rationale for having two houses has been eliminated by the requirement that both houses now be apportioned and districted on the one person one vote basis. Requiring a full time legislature would be relevant to the level of compensation and a unicameral legislature would be relevant to the affordability of increased compensation. If a full time legislature were required, the Convention would also likely reconsider the existing constitutional provision tying compensation of Delegates to the Constitutional Convention to legislative compensation since being a Delegate to a Constitutional Convention is a part time position.

While the Convention gets to decide how long it will last and when it will submit its recommendations for voter approval, it is reasonable to believe that a Convention would take the time to hold public hearings and that the voters would act on the Convention's proposals at the general election in 2020.

Please keep these circumstances in mind during your deliberations. In my opinion they counsel your setting compensation based on the legislature being part time and not the only source of a member's income.

Respectfully,

Evan A. Davis

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