



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Pamela Helming

Senator Helming Statement on Governor Signing Bill Moving Local Elections

PAMELA HELMING December 22, 2023

| ISSUE: **ELECTIONS**

A dark blue rectangular graphic with a white border. Inside, the word "STATEMENT" is in large, white, serif capital letters. Below it, the word "from" is in a smaller, white, cursive script, flanked by two horizontal white lines. Below that, "NYS SENATOR PAM HELMING" is in large, white, serif capital letters. At the bottom, "Representing the 54th District" is in a smaller, white, serif font. The background of the graphic shows a faint, dark image of a building, likely the New York State Capitol.

STATEMENT

— *from* —

NYS SENATOR PAM HELMING

Representing the 54th District

Tonight, the Governor signed a bill that will move many county and town elections to even-numbered years.

This is a bill I voted against and do not support. None of the municipalities I represent asked for this bill. It was opposed by the New York State Association of Counties. County and local officials across the state voiced strong opposition.

So why was it introduced, and why was it signed into law, if it was not something our local governments were asking for?

I've seen no solid evidence that this law would save taxpayers money.

Local elections have the most direct impact on local taxpayers and what happens in our local communities. Moving these consequential elections to the same year as statewide and national elections will minimize local elections and reduce attention to important local issues.