



# HOUSE BILL 419: Youngsville Charter Revised & Consolidated.

2023-2024 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	April 27, 2023
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Rep. Winslow	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Greg Roney
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Third Edition		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 419 would revise and consolidate the Charter of the Town of Youngsville.*

**CURRENT LAW:** The Town of Youngsville (Town) was incorporated in 1875. Since then, the Charter has been modified by multiple acts of the General Assembly but the Charter has never been consolidated and updated into one document.

The Town operates under a Council-Manager form of government. The governing body of the Town includes the Mayor and a five-member Board of Commissioners. Members of the Board of Commissioners are elected at large in nonpartisan elections and serve staggered, four-year terms. Under current staggering, the Mayor and three Commissioners are elected in one election cycle and in the next election cycle, two Commissioners are elected. The term of the current Mayor expires in 2023.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 419 would do the following:

- Revise the Charter of the Town and consolidate certain acts concerning property, affairs, and government of the Town. It would continue those provisions of prior acts that are expressly consolidated into this act, so that all accrued rights and liabilities could be enforced.
- Address the following topics in the revised Charter: incorporation; corporate powers and boundaries; governing body; elections; organization and administration; special powers and miscellaneous provisions.
- Authorize the Town Manager to appoint the Town Clerk, Finance Officer, Tax Collector, and Chief of Police.
- Authorize the Town to levy special assessments for street and sidewalk improvements without the need for a petition.
- Authorize recreational fees in lieu of for subdivisions to be calculated on a per dwelling unit calculation.
- Authorize public enterprise fees to be billed and collected as property taxes and to accept a conveyance of real property in full or partial satisfaction of a Town lien on that property.
- Repeal local acts that are no longer needed or have been consolidated into the Charter.
- Provide that all existing ordinances, resolutions, and other provisions of the Town that are not inconsistent with this act would continue until repealed or amended.
- Include a severability clause.

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- Provide that to modify the staggering of the terms of the Mayor and Board of Commissioners, the term of the Mayor serving on the date of ratification of this act would be extended for two years and would expire in 2027.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The act would be effective when it becomes law.

*Billy Godwin, with the Legislative Analysis Division, substantially contributed to this summary.*