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06/15/09 07:07 AM

Villages ought to be integrated into towns

Reforming state government here in New York should take several avenues. And I wouldn't expect as many reforms as we would like. We have our problems in this area. Our taxes are high. But it isn't all bad. Sometimes our problems are exaggerated. The services in general are good. Living here suits me quite well.

I don't find eliminating a few legislators locally is going to save much. The real problems as far as government costs are the unions and municipal workers. Not that they shouldn't be well provided for, but there are limits.

I believe villages should be integrated with their towns. It is good that New York is moving to make mergers of state entities easier. However, it should be up to the people through referendums to decide what is best for them.

Cities and towns in urban counties are now like boroughs or city districts. New York City has five counties and five boroughs. The State of New York and the U. S. Department of Commerce should come together on a new classification for urban counties. Thus, we would have the City of Buffalo-Erie County.

Joel LaPlaca

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