

**LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2014  
COUNTY OF ROCKLAND  
STATE OF NEW YORK**

(Introduced by: Hon. Ilan S. Schoenberger; Hon. Aney Paul, Hon. John A. Murphy,  
Hon. Frank Sparaco) (Co-Sponsor: Hon. Alden H. Wolfe)

Mr. Schoenberger offered the following Local Law, which was seconded by Chairman Wolfe and unanimously adopted:

A local law establishing a policy to mandate the prompt payment of lawful debts and obligations incurred by the county of Rockland.

Be it enacted by the legislature of the county of Rockland as follows:

Section 1.      Title.

This local law shall be known as the “We Pay Our Bills Timely” local law.

Section 2.      Legislative Intent.

It is the intention of the Legislature of Rockland County by this local law to create a policy to provide for the prompt payment of lawful debts and obligations incurred by the county of Rockland.

Many times vouchers, requisitions or purchase orders, hereinafter referred to as “financial obligations of Rockland County”, are submitted by contractors, contract agencies, vendors and others for payment to the county of Rockland. Many times these financial obligations of Rockland County, after they are approved for payment, do not get paid for as long as 90 days. In addition thereto, in some instances, the checks are actually issued by the County, dated within the 90 days, but not paid to the appropriate party until several weeks later.

This procedure used by the county to pay its financial obligations causes great hardship upon the recipients of the payments who must wait for extended periods of time and, in many instances, borrow money from other sources until the County of Rockland meets its financial obligations.

It is the intent of this law to create a policy for payment of Rockland county’s outstanding financial obligations which does not inflict a hardship upon people who do business with or receive payments from the county of Rockland.

Section 3. Definitions.

- A. "Financial obligation" – is defined as vouchers, requisitions or purchase orders, hereinafter referred to as "financial obligations of Rockland County" which are submitted by contractors, contract agencies, vendors and others for payment, to the county of Rockland.
- B. "Prompt payment" is defined herein as payment of the financial obligations of the county of Rockland within 60 days from final approval of the vouchers, requisitions, purchase orders, debt, contractual or legal obligation along with any documents required by the county of Rockland. Prompt payment does not apply to any amount which is in dispute by the county of Rockland and/or which proper and complete documentation has not been submitted as determined in the sole discretion of the County Executive.

Section 4. Legal Authorization

Pursuant to the Rockland County Charter Section 2.01 the legislature "shall be the legislative, appropriating and policy-determining body of the county", and this local law is being enacted pursuant to such charter section. Pursuant to Rockland County Charter Section 2.01 (c) the county legislature shall have the power to "exercise all powers of local legislation in relation to enacting, amending or rescinding local laws, legalizing acts or resolutions".

Section 5. Policy of Rockland County

Concurrent with the effective date of this local law it shall be the policy and the obligation of the county of Rockland to issue prompt payment of any "financial obligation" of the county of Rockland within 60 days of approval in whole or in part of the "financial obligation" as may be approved for payment.

In the event that unforeseen circumstances occur, including but not limited to federal or state funds not having been timely received, then the County Executive, in his sole discretion and in the best interests of the County is authorized to extend payments beyond the 60 day requirement of this law.

All county requests for proposal and/or all county requests for bids shall contain a statement setting forth the provisions of this local law. All county government officials and employees, including but not limited to elected and appointed officials shall in good faith comply with this law.

Section 6.

The county commissioner of finance shall report to the county executive and the chair of the legislature whenever payment is not or cannot be paid, within the time periods set forth by this law, and the reasons therefore.

Section 7. Effective date.

This local law shall become effective upon filing with the New York State secretary of state.

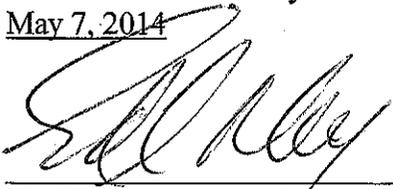
STATE OF NEW YORK )  
 ) ss.:  
COUNTY OF ROCKLAND )

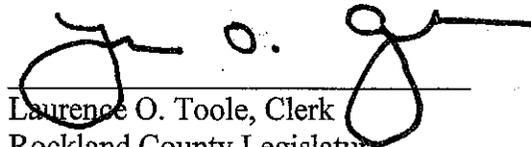
I, the undersigned, Clerk to the Legislature of the County of Rockland DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the attached is an original Local Law of such Legislature, duly adopted on the 6th day of May 2014 by a majority of the members elected to the Legislature while such Legislature was in regular session with a duly constituted quorum of members present and voting.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that at the time said Local Law was adopted said Legislature was comprised of seventeen members.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of said Legislature this 7th day of May 2014.

Date sent to the County Executive:  
May 7, 2014

  
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Certified or Approved  
Edwin J. Day  
County Executive, County of Rockland

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laurence O. Toole, Clerk  
Rockland County Legislature

5/7/14  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

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