

Over the years there have been many things happening in local governments across the country. A few things that have taken place in the past few years in local politics is a lot of reforms being done in the political arena. One thing that has happened at a few places across the country in the local elections is someone coming into the political arena that is a very strong candidate that can strengthen his power within that particular area. For example, one reform that has taken place in New York that has been undertaken by a strong politician is longer term limits for the New York City Mayor's race.

Mayor "Michael Bloomberg won a third term as New York mayor" on November 3, 2009 (The Associated Press). However, in early 2008 there was a term limit of only two terms for the Mayor's position in 2008. "He gained the ability to run for re-election last year after persuading the City Council to change the law and remove a restriction that limited officials to two, four-year terms" (Goldman, 2009). In other words, Mayor Michael Bloomberg pushed for reforms to the law in New York City asking for the term limits for Mayor to be set at three terms instead of two. Mayor Michael Bloomberg was able to convince the city council to extend the term limit in the city to three terms based simply on Michael Bloomberg being a strong executive. A strong executive is one that is able to strengthen the "executive leadership in city government" (Dye & Macmanus, 2009, pg 393). This can be accomplished a number of different ways such as "longer terms for mayors, subordination of departments and commissions to a chief executive, and an executive budget combined with modern financial practices" (Dye & Macmanus, 2009, pg 393). If someone comes to office that has the qualities of a strong executive then they can convince people to support the issues that they want passed. In this case Michael Bloomberg asked for the term limits to be extended to three terms. He was successful in his pursuit of extending the term limits and as a result he was able to win reelection for the

Mayor's office on November 3. Since Michael Bloomberg is a strong executive he is able to strengthen his power within the City of New York because he was able to be reelected as the Mayor. Mr. Bloomberg has another four years to lead the City of New York.

The past several years there have been numerous reforms being done at the local levels of government across the country. If you get a politician in office that is a strong executive then it is easier for the reforms to be passed that the politician supports. The past local elections in New York clearly show that New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg is a strong executive that was able to build on his power while in office.

References

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