

Janice O'Connell

emiled

From: Mike P Curran [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2013 3:31 PM
To: Janice O'Connell; acanedy@comcast.net; mikepcurran1@verizon.net; aknight@provincetown-ma.gov; Bill Doherty; Julia Taylor; grundmans@comcast.net; Ronald Bergstrom; Suzanne McAuliffe
Subject: National association of Counties

from National Association of Counties web site



Basic Forms of County Government

Commission

The distinguishing feature of this type of structure is the fact that legislative authority (e.g., power to enact ordinances and adopt budgets) and executive powers (e.g., to administer policies and appoint county employees) are exercised jointly by an elected commission or board of supervisors.

Although governing body members are most frequently called commissioners or supervisors, these are not universal titles. Some governing body members in Louisiana, for example, are called parish police jurors. The county governing body in most New Jersey counties is the board of chosen freeholders.

Commission/Administrator

Under this form, the county board of commissioners appoints an administrator who serves at its pleasure. That individual may be vested with a broad range of powers, including the authority to hire/fire department heads and formulate a budget.

Council-Executive

The separation of powers principle undergirds this governance system. A county executive is the chief administrative officer of the jurisdiction. Typically, he or she has the authority to veto ordinances enacted by the county board (subject to their possible override) and hire/fire department heads.

Although a majority of counties still operate under the commission form, more than 40 percent have shifted to either the county

administrator or the elected executive type. State policy-makers have contributed to this trend, as Arkansas, Kentucky, and Tennessee now mandate that counties in those states be headed by an elected executive

for a list of counties with elected executives and their job titles go to this web site

<http://www.naco.org/Counties/Pages/ElectedExecutive.aspx>

michael p curran