STATE OF NEW YORK

393

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

(Prefiled)

January 6, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. ZEBROWSKI, GRIFFIN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing an interagency task force on hate crimes and domestic terrorism

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 235 to read as follows:

§ 235. Establishment of interagency task force on hate crimes and domestic terrorism. 1. There is established an interagency task force on hate crimes and domestic terrorism, which shall consist of the following members or their designees: (a) the superintendent of state police; (b) the commissioner of the division of criminal justice services; (c) the commissioner of the division of homeland security and emergency services; (d) the director of the office of victim services; (e) the director of the division of human rights; (f) one member, who shall be appointed by the governor as a representative of a group or groups of people who have been targeted by hate crime acts or acts of domestic terrorism; (g) one member, who shall be appointed by the governor as a representative of a group or groups who advocate for or otherwise represent communities who have been targeted by hate crime acts or acts of domestic terrorism; (h) one member, who shall be appointed on the recommendation of the temporary president of the senate; (i) one member, who shall be appointed on the recommendation of the speaker of the assembly; (j) one member, who shall be appointed on the recommendation of the president of the New York state district attorneys association; (k) one member, who shall be appointed on the recommendation of the president of the New York state association of chiefs of police; and others as may be necessary to carry out the duties and responsibilities under this section. The task force will be co-chaired by the commissioner of the

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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division of criminal justice services and the superintendent of state police, or their designees. It shall meet as often as is necessary, but no less than four times per year, and under circumstances as are appropriate to fulfilling its duties under this section. All members shall be provided with written notice reasonably in advance of each meeting with the date, time and location of such meeting.

2. The task force shall: (a) collect and organize data on the nature and extent of hate crimes and domestic terrorism in the state; (b) identify available federal, state and local programs that provide services to victims of hate crimes and acts of domestic terrorism; (c) coordinate when necessary with the bureau of criminal investigations task force defined in subdivision two of section two hundred sixteen of this article on issues pertaining to hate crimes; (d) identify available federal, state and local programs that provide services to prevent acts of hate crimes and domestic terrorism; (e) consult with governmental and non-governmental organizations in developing recommendations to strengthen state and local efforts to prevent hate crimes and acts of domestic terrorism; (f) establish interagency protocols and collaboration between federal, state, and local law enforcement, state and governmental agencies, and non-governmental organizations; (g) evaluate approaches to increase public awareness about hate crimes and domestic terrorism and make recommendations on such approaches; (h) evaluate the effectiveness of training programs on hate crimes and domestic terrorism that have been designed for law enforcement personnel, prosecutors, other governmental employees, and non-governmental organizations, and make recommendations for improving the quality and effectiveness of such programs; and (i) convene any subcommittee necessary to consider specific issues as needed.

3. The task force shall report to the governor, the speaker of the assembly, the minority leader of the assembly, the temporary president of the senate and the minority leader of the senate no less than annually. Such report shall include data gathered by the task force on the nature, extent, and incidence of hate crimes and domestic terrorism in the state and a summary of any recommendations developed over the year to strengthen state and local prevention efforts and any other information deemed necessary. The task force shall additionally issue such reports and recommendations as it deems necessary to carry out its duties and responsibilities.

4. For the purposes of this section, "domestic terrorism" shall mean the commission, or possible commission, of acts covered under article four hundred ninety of the penal law, in which the perpetrator is or would be a resident of the United States or an organization that operates exclusively or primarily within the United States.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall have become a law.