

STATE OF NEW YORK

5567

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 19, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. PICHARDO, EPSTEIN, DE LA ROSA, SAYEGH, SEAWRIGHT, QUART, TAYLOR, CRUZ, REYES, DICKENS, DeSTEFANO, HYNDMAN, RICHARDSON, LAVINE, RAMOS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT relating to establishing a joint legislative committee on racial equity in New York state

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

1 Section 1. a. There is hereby created the joint legislative committee
2 on racial equity in New York state. The committee shall provide a racial
3 equity impact assessment on all legislation that is favorably reported
4 from both houses of the legislature. The committee shall solicit input
5 from members of the public, especially those individuals with expertise
6 related to racial equity issues, to aid the committee in its work.

7 b. The committee shall consist of the majority leaders and minority
8 leaders from both houses of the legislature, ten members appointed by
9 the temporary president of the senate and ten members appointed by the
10 speaker of the assembly who are representative of the racial diversity
11 that exists in New York state. Any vacancies occurring among the members
12 of the committee shall be filled in the manner of the original appoint-
13 ment.

14 c. The committee shall (1) prepare a racial equity impact assessment
15 on all legislation that is reported favorably to both houses of the
16 legislature to minimize unanticipated adverse consequences by utilizing
17 resources that have a: (i) history of expertise and positive outcomes
18 in racial equity; and (ii) a deep understanding of ameliorating
19 disproportionate outcomes and unintended costs; (2) hold a hearing on
20 any matter relating to the functions of the committee; (3) identify
21 state policies and actions that, in conjunction with public and private
22 partners and in support of racial equity, can work to achieve conditions
23 of such; (4) review and make recommendations to align state statutes,

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

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1 regulations, programs, services and budgetary priorities; (5) search for
2 any interdepartmental gaps, inconsistencies and inefficiencies in the
3 implementation or attainment of the state policies and actions; (6)
4 identify any new laws, regulations, programs, services, and budgetary
5 priorities that are needed to ensure and promote desired conditions of
6 racial equity; (7) serve as an informational resource for the legisla-
7 ture; and (8) perform other activities, including public outreach.
8 d. The committee shall have the same powers as other standing or
9 select committees of the legislature.
10 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.