

STATE OF NEW YORK

7721--A

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

May 20, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. CLARK, HEVESI, THIELE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Children and Families -- reported and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to representatives of the child care availability taskforce and the focus of such taskforce; and to amend chapter 493 of the laws of 2017 amending the social services law relating to establishing a child care availability taskforce to evaluate the need for and availability of child care throughout the state, in relation to the effectiveness thereof

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

1 Section 1. Subdivisions 2, 3 and 4 of section 390-k of the social
2 services law, as amended by chapter 33 of the laws of 2018, are amended
3 to read as follows:

4 2. The taskforce shall be chaired by a representative of the executive
5 chamber and the commissioners of the office of children and family
6 services and the department of labor, or their designees. Members of the
7 taskforce shall serve without compensation for three year terms, but may
8 be reimbursed for actual costs incurred for participation on such task-
9 force. Ensuring adequate geographic, racial and ethnic representation,
10 members of the taskforce shall be appointed by the governor and
11 comprised as follows:

12 (a) [~~three~~] four individuals shall be appointed upon the recommenda-
13 tion of the speaker of the assembly, at least one of whom shall be a
14 parent who has utilized subsidized child care and at least one of whom
15 shall be a parent who has utilized unsubsidized child care, from differ-
16 ent regions of the state;

17 (b) [~~three~~] four individuals shall be appointed upon the recommenda-
18 tion of the temporary president of the senate, at least one of whom
19 shall be a parent who has utilized subsidized child care and at least

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

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1 one of whom shall be a parent who has utilized unsubsidized child care,
2 from different regions of the state;

3 (c) one individual shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the
4 minority leader of the assembly;

5 (d) one individual shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the
6 minority leader of the senate;

7 (e) two representatives of a child care resource and referral agency;

8 [~~(d) two~~] (f) a minimum of three and a maximum of four representatives
9 of home-based child care providers;

10 [~~(e) two~~] (g) a minimum of three and a maximum of four representatives
11 of center-based child care providers;

12 [~~(f) two~~] (h) two representatives from the business community;

13 [~~(g) two~~] (i) two representatives from unions that represent child care
14 providers; and

15 [~~(h) one~~] (j) at least one representative from each of the following enti-
16 ties:

17 (i) the office of temporary and disability assistance;

18 (ii) the council on children and families;

19 (iii) the department of taxation and finance;

20 (iv) a regional economic development council;

21 (v) the state university of New York or the city university of New
22 York;

23 (vi) the state education department;

24 (vii) the early childhood advisory council;

25 (viii) a social service district or county government or an entity
26 that advocates on behalf of social services or county governments; and

27 (ix) a non-profit child care advocacy organization.

28 3. The taskforce shall examine the following with a focus on how each
29 component has been affected by the implementation of policies supported
30 by federally funded programs through various stimulus packages:

31 (a) affordable child care with a focus on the cost of care for fami-
32 lies and factors that contribute to such costs;

33 (b) access to and availability of subsidized child care, including the
34 identification of barriers families eligible under state law face
35 obtaining or utilizing such subsidies;

36 (c) availability of child care for non-traditional work hours;

37 (d) whether parents are voluntarily leaving the workforce due to lack
38 of affordable or accessible child care, and the demographic information
39 of such parents, if known;

40 (e) whether employers have identified lack of child care as a reason
41 for a shortage of a qualified workforce;

42 (f) the impact of child care, or lack thereof, on economic development
43 throughout the state;

44 (g) varying levels of quality of care throughout the state;

45 (h) availability of quality child care by economic development region
46 including identification of underserved communities;

47 (i) whether regulatory or statutory changes could promote access to
48 child care and improve health and safety standards in child care
49 programs;

50 (j) business incentives to increase child care access and the impact
51 on tax credits and deductions relating to child care;

52 (k) ways to address concerns identified in the course of the examina-
53 tion required by this subdivision; [~~and~~]

54 (l) the implementation of policies supported by federally funded
55 programs through various stimulus packages; and

56 (m) anything else the taskforce deems necessary.

1 4. (a) The taskforce shall report its interim findings and recommenda-
2 tions in accordance with subdivision three of this section to the gover-
3 nor, the speaker of the assembly and the temporary president of the
4 senate no later than November first, two thousand ~~[eighteen]~~ twenty-two
5 and its final findings and recommendations no later than December thir-
6 ty-first, two thousand ~~[twenty]~~ twenty-three.

7 (b) The taskforce shall also report on the implementation of any
8 recommendations that resulted from the initial report required to be
9 produced by the task force pursuant to subdivision four of chapter four
10 hundred ninety-three of the laws of two thousand seventeen. Such addi-
11 tional report shall be provided annually, beginning July first two thou-
12 sand twenty-two.

13 § 2. Section 2 of chapter 493 of the laws of 2017 amending the social
14 services law relating to establishing a child care availability task-
15 force to evaluate the need for and availability of child care throughout
16 the state, as amended by chapter 33 of the laws of 2018, is amended to
17 read as follows:

18 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire December
19 31, ~~[2021]~~ 2024 when upon such date the provisions of this act shall be
20 deemed repealed.

21 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that
22 the amendments to section 390-k of the social services law made by
23 section one of this act shall not affect the repeal of such section and
24 shall be deemed repealed therewith.