STATE OF NEW YORK

10291

IN ASSEMBLY

February 20, 2026

Introduced by M. of A. SEAWRIGHT -- read once and referred to the Committee on Aging

AN ACT to establish the caregiver coordinating commission

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

Section 1. Caregiver coordinating commission. 1. There is hereby established a caregiver coordinating commission to coordinate statewide planning, development, and implementation of caregiver support services, including respite care, for informal family caregivers caring for those across the lifespan. The commission shall consist of members appointed by the governor and be led by the office for the aging. All appointments shall be made within thirty days of the effective date of this act.

2. The commission shall, within twenty days following the appointment of all its members, elect a chair from among such members.

3. The commission shall study, examine and review the issues related to caregiving, including, but not limited to:

(a) Gathering caregiver feedback and concerns using various approaches and disseminating relevant information about available services, including respite care;

(b) Exploring and analyzing effective respite care programs in other states;

(c) Creating a caregiver support model consisting of best practices in New York and other states;

(d) Providing an ongoing analysis of best practices, including informal caregiver support programs in New York and other states and programs that support caregivers in the workplace;

(e) Coordinating activities of existing and proposed informal caregiver support services among state and local municipalities;

(f) Continually researching funding opportunities;

(g) Determining unmet needs and funding priorities;

(h) Monitoring and implementing the commission's recommendations;

(i) Providing an annual policy review; and

(j) Annual strategic planning.

4. For the purposes of this act, "caregiver" means a person who:

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

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(a) assumes responsibility for the care of a vulnerable elderly person, or an incompetent or physically disabled person pursuant to a court order; or

(b) receives monetary or other valuable consideration for providing care for a vulnerable elderly person, or an incompetent or physically disabled person.

5. The commission shall report its findings, conclusions and recommendations to the governor no later than one hundred eighty days after the effective date of this act.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.