STATE OF NEW YORK

5351

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 20, 2025

Introduced by Sen. COMRIE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Labor

AN ACT to amend the labor law, in relation to establishing the industry targeted unemployment task force; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

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

Section 1. The labor law is amended by adding a new article 18-A to read as follows:

ARTICLE 18-A

INDUSTRY TARGETED UNEMPLOYMENT TASK FORCE

Section 645. Statement of purpose.
646. Industry targeted unemployment task force.
647. Task force composition.
648. Task force duties.
649. Reporting.

§ 645. Statement of purpose. It is the purpose of this article to ensure:

1. During times of large overall unemployment, individuals without employment are aware of the various job training and job development programs available to them;

2. That various job training and job development programs administered or funded by the state are promoted in a matter that targets former employees of industries experiencing higher levels of unemployment compared to the overall rate; and

3. Former employees of industries experiencing high levels of unemployment are enrolled and complete job training and job development programs, specifically in areas that have a demand in necessary labor.

§ 646. Industry targeted unemployment task force. The industry targeted unemployment task force, referred to in this article as the task force, is hereby established for the purpose of concentrating unemploy-

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

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ment assistance, job training, and job development assistance during times of high unemployment to individuals who have previously been employed by an industry that is experiencing unemployment rates higher than the statewide average.

§ 647. Task force composition. 1. The task force shall consist of nine members; one of who shall be the commissioner, or such commissioner's designee, who shall serve as the chairperson of the task force; four members shall be appointed by the governor, two of whom shall be representatives of a labor union and two of whom shall be representatives of an industry experiencing high levels of unemployment to the extent practicable; two members shall be appointed by the temporary president of the senate, one of whom shall be a representative of a labor union and one of whom shall be a representative of an industry experiencing high levels of unemployment to the extent practicable; and two members shall be appointed by the speaker of the assembly, one of whom shall be a representative of a labor union and one of whom shall be a representative of an industry experiencing high levels of unemployment to the extent practicable.

2. The members of the task force shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

§ 648. Task force duties. The role of the task force includes, but is not limited to:

1. Examining the statewide unemployment rate by industry, and the overall pool of unemployed persons by their last industry worked in, to determine what industries have higher unemployment than the statewide average; and

2. Developing an outreach program to be utilized by state agencies for the unemployed workers of industries that have high levels of unemployment, including but not limited to, job search resources, job training opportunities in emerging industries, payment and financial assistance for those programs, entrepreneurial opportunities, and other items that would assist unemployed workers in obtaining employment.

§ 649. Reporting. 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 with the first such report due six months after the effective date of this article, and it shall additionally issue such reports and recommendations as it deems necessary to carry out its duties and responsibilities. The findings and recommendations in such reports shall be used by all state agencies to address any unemployment and job assistance outreach as applicable. Any such reports shall be made publicly available on the website of the department.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be deemed repealed 3 years after such date.