S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

1271

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

(PREFILED)

January 7, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. GALEF, ALESSI, MILLER, THIELE, CALHOUN, KOLB, WALKER, GIGLIO, ALFANO -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. BACALLES, BARRA, ERRIGO, McKEVITT, SPANO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

AN ACT establishing the temporary task force on legislative items for the purposes of investigating and making recommendations regarding items of appropriation 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. Temporary task force on legislative items. 1. A temporary task force, to be known as the temporary task force on legislative items, is hereby created to investigate the effectiveness of and to recommend alternatives regarding the current legislative item of appropriation process.

2. (a) The task force shall be bipartisan and consist of eleven members of whom three shall be appointed by the governor, three members appointed by the temporary president of the senate, three members appointed by the speaker of the assembly, one member appointed by the minority leader of the senate and one member appointed by the minority leader of the assembly. All appointments shall be made within 30 days after the date on which this act shall have become a law.

(b) A chair shall be elected by the members of the temporary task force. Six members shall, at all times, constitute a quorum. Members shall receive no compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for their expenses actually and necessarily incurred in the performance of any of their duties. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of any general, special, or local law, no member of the legislature, officer or employee of the state or of any political subdivision thereof

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

LBD01671-01-9

shall forfeit his or her office or employment by reason of acceptance of appointment to the temporary task force.

3. The task force is authorized, and shall have the powers of a legislative committee as provided in article 4 of the legislative law, to solicit input from civic groups throughout the state and hold a minimum of three public hearings throughout the state to hear from the public on the topic of legislative items of appropriation and the distribution of such among each assembly and senate district.

4. After the solicitation of input from civic groups and the public hearings, the task force shall establish:

(a) goals for legislative items, including requiring the legislature and the governor to determine the most equitable distribution of such legislative items to districts throughout the state without regard to party affiliation of the member of the legislature;

(b) rules and regulations governing eligibility determination for receiving legislative items and components;

(c) an application process with criteria for receiving and providing legislative items and components to a member of the legislature for distribution in such member's district;

(d) accountability mechanisms for legislative items and components including, but not limited to, the identification of the legislative member receiving such item, the funding amount of the item, and the intent of the expenditure; and

(e) such other issues as the task force may deem important to the efficient and effective operation of the legislative item of appropriation process.

5. The task force shall make a written report to the governor, temporary president of the senate, speaker of the assembly, minority leader of the senate, and minority leader of the assembly of its findings, conclusions and recommendations on or before June 30 of the year next succeeding the year in which this act shall have become a law. Such report shall be made available to the public and include such legislative proposals as shall be necessary to implement the task force's recommendations.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately, and shall expire on the first of July of the year next succeeding the year in which it shall have become a law, when upon such date the provisions of this act shall be deemed repealed.