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

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I N  S E N A T E

June 25, 2010

Introduced by Sens. HANNON, FLANAGAN, FUSCHILLO, O. JOHNSON, LAVALLE, MARCELLINO, SKELOS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to establish a task force to examine, assess and report upon the potential effects of an offshore oil spill on Long Island

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. A task force is hereby established to examine, evaluate and make recommendations concerning the potential effects of an offshore oil spill on the counties of Nassau and Suffolk. Such task force, to the maximum extent practicable, shall coordinate with and utilize the resources of the Coast Guard and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The task force shall direct its attention to the potential effects of an offshore oil spill on the counties of Nassau and Suffolk relating to:

(a) Evaluating the probability of an offshore oil spill occurring that will affect the counties of Nassau and Suffolk;

(b) Evaluating the consequences of an offshore oil spill on businesses, residents, wildlife, fishing and tourism in the counties of Nassau and Suffolk;

(c) Evaluating the commercial, legal and environmental impacts caused by an offshore oil spill on the counties of Nassau and Suffolk; and

(d) Examining methodologies which may prevent offshore oil spills and those that would mitigate the effects of such an oil spill on the counties of Nassau and Suffolk.

S 2. (a) The task force shall consist of 9 members to be appointed as follows:

(i) one member appointed by the commissioner of environmental conservation;

(ii) one member appointed by the attorney general;

(iii) one member appointed by the director of the state emergency management office;

(iv) one member appointed by the commissioner of parks, recreation and historic preservation;

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

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(v) one member appointed by the state comptroller;
(vi) one member appointed by the governor;
(vii) one member appointed by the commissioner of transportation;
(viii) one member appointed by majority vote of the county legislature of the county of Nassau; and
(ix) one member appointed by majority vote of the county legislature of the county of Suffolk.
(b) The chair of the task force shall be elected by the task force from amongst its membership. Vacancies in the membership of the task force shall be filled in the manner provided for original appointments.
S 3. The task force shall meet within the state, shall hold public hearings and shall have all the powers of a legislative committee pursuant to the legislative law.
S 4. 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 pursuant to this act.
S 5. To the maximum extent feasible, the task force shall be entitled to request and receive, and shall utilize and be provided with such facilities, resources and data of any department, division, board, bureau, commission or agency of the state or any political subdivision thereof as it may reasonably request to properly carry out its duties.
S 6. The task force shall submit a written report, to the governor and the legislature, of its findings, conclusions and recommendations within 120 days of the effective date of this act. The written report shall include such legislative proposals as it deems necessary to implement its recommendations.
S 7. This act shall take effect immediately.