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

6339

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

March 2, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. GALEF, HOYT, DESTITO, DINOWITZ, LIFTON, MILLER, SWEENEY, JOHN, MAGEE, SCOZZAFAVA, REILLY, LAVINE, SCHROEDER, FIELDS, ALFANO -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. BARRA, BURLING, CALHOUN, CHRISTENSEN, CLARK, CROUCH, DelMONTE, ERRIGO, GIGLIO, KOLB, RAIA, TEDISCO, THIELE, WALKER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to create a joint bipartisan task force to study the legislative process and coordination between the assembly and senate; 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. A temporary eight member task force is hereby created to study the current legislative process and modes of communication within and between the assembly and senate.

S 2. The task force shall be bipartisan and consist of 3 members appointed by the temporary president of the senate; 3 members appointed by the speaker of the assembly; 1 member appointed by the minority leader of the senate; and 1 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.

S 3. The task force shall meet as soon as practicable and elect a chair or co-chairs from among its members. The task force shall schedule internal legislative hearings and take testimony from concerned parties. Such task force shall examine and make recommendations concerning:

1. Time and schedule management in the legislature including, but not limited to, the volume of legislation introduced and the distribution of action on bills over the course of a session.

2. Bill management in the senate and assembly and coordination and cooperation between these houses regarding such management including, but not limited to, use of conferences and standing conference committees between the houses of the legislature, conference structure between

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

LBD01644-01-9

the standing committees of the legislative houses, creation of a standing conference committee, increased grouping of bills with similar subject matter in committee agendas and expedited legislative process for local and "home rule" bills.

3. Legislative oversight and foresight including, but not limited to, review of previously enacted legislation and programs, biennial review of existing committees and subcommittees, review of administrative rules and regulations, increased use of fiscal impact notes on all bills whose subject matter impact on state, county, local, school or other political entities that may be affected and long range examination and planning of state fiscal needs.

4. Such other issues as the task force may deem important to the efficient and effective operation of the legislative process.

S 4. The task force may employ and at its pleasure remove such personnel as it may deem necessary for the performance of its functions.

S 5. The task force shall hold public hearings, and shall have all of the powers of a legislative committee as provided in article 4 of the legislative law.

S 6. 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 as provided in this act when rendering services as such task force member.

S 7. To the maximum extent feasible, the task force shall be entitled to request and receive, and shall be provided with and utilize 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 powers and duties under this act.

S 8. The task force shall make a written report to the 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 February 28, 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 9. This act shall take effect immediately, and shall expire on the first of March 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.