

2208

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

February 13, 2009

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

AN ACT to amend the elder law, in relation to establishing a senior  
housing task force

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

1     Section 1. The elder law is amended by adding a new section 203-a to  
2     read as follows:  
3     S 203-A. SENIOR HOUSING TASK FORCE. 1. THERE IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED  
4     WITHIN THE OFFICE A SENIOR HOUSING TASK FORCE WHICH SHALL MEET AT LEAST  
5     FOUR TIMES IN DIFFERENT GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS OF THE STATE. THE TASK FORCE  
6     SHALL CONSIST OF SEVENTEEN MEMBERS AND SHALL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES  
7     FROM THE FOLLOWING STATE AGENCIES: THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING, THE DIVI-  
8     SION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, THE  
9     OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH, THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THE  
10    EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, THE OFFICE OF MENTAL RETARDATION  
11    AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, THE DIVISION OF PROTECTIVE SERVICES FOR  
12    ADULTS OF THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES, AND THE NEW YORK  
13    CITY DEPARTMENT FOR THE AGING. OF THE EIGHT REMAINING MEMBERS, THREE  
14    SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY, THREE SHALL BE  
15    APPOINTED BY THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, ONE SHALL BE  
16    APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE ASSEMBLY AND ONE SHALL BE  
17    APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE, AND SHALL BROADLY REPRE-  
18    SENT HOUSING AND SENIOR CITIZEN GROUPS FROM ALL GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF THE  
19    STATE INCLUDING SERVICE PROVIDERS, ASSOCIATIONS, ADVOCATES, PROPRIETORS,  
20    AND CONSUMERS OF FOR-PROFIT AND NOT-FOR-PROFIT SENIOR HOUSING OPTIONS  
21    INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO: ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES, ADULT HOMES,  
22    SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES, INDEPENDENT LIVING FACILITIES, NATURALLY  
23    OCCURRING RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES, NEIGHBORHOOD NATURALLY OCCURRING  
24    RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES, AND CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES.  
25    MEMBERS SHALL RECEIVE NO COMPENSATION FOR THEIR SERVICES BUT SHALL BE

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

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1 REIMBURSED FOR TRAVEL AND OTHER EXPENSES ACTUALLY AND NECESSARILY  
2 INCURRED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES. THE TASK FORCE SHALL BE  
3 CO-CHAIRLED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE AND THE COMMISSIONER OF THE  
4 DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL. THE TASK FORCE IS RESPONSIBLE  
5 FOR CONDUCTING A STATE-WIDE ASSESSMENT OF SENIOR HOUSING NEEDS TAKING  
6 INTO CONSIDERATION THE VARIOUS GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS AND DIFFERENT NEEDS OF  
7 THE SENIORS IN THOSE AREAS AND RESOURCES AVAILABLE IN THOSE DIFFERENT  
8 AREAS AND PROJECT THOSE NEEDS OVER THE NEXT TEN YEARS; OTHER FACTORS  
9 WHICH SHALL BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION ARE: HEALTH CARE NEEDS OF  
10 SENIORS, THE LONG TERM CARE NEEDS OF SENIORS, FINANCIAL RESOURCES AVAIL-  
11 ABLE TO SENIORS, OR NEEDED BY SENIORS, AND TRANSPORTATION NEEDS OF  
12 SENIORS. THE ASSESSMENT SHALL INCLUDE A REVIEW OF INNOVATIVE APPROACHES  
13 SUCCESSFULLY BEING IMPLEMENTED IN OTHER STATES AND THEIR POTENTIAL FOR  
14 IMPLEMENTATION IN THIS STATE. SUCH ASSESSMENT SHALL ALSO DEVELOP A  
15 VIABLE PLAN FOR PROVIDING QUALITY SENIOR HOUSING TO MEET THE PROJECTED  
16 NEEDS OF SENIORS WITH ACTIONS, STEPS AND TIME FRAMES.

17 2. THE TASK FORCE SHALL ISSUE A REPORT BY JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND  
18 ELEVEN OUTLINING ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDING THE STATE  
19 PLAN WITH TIME FRAMES. THE REPORT SHALL BE DELIVERED TO THE GOVERNOR,  
20 THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY, THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, THE  
21 CHAIRPERSONS OF THE AGING, HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEES IN THE ASSEM-  
22 BLY, AND THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE AGING, HEALTH AND HOUSING,  
23 CONSTRUCTION, AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEES IN THE SENATE.

24 S 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall  
25 have become a law.