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

7301--A

I N S E N A T E

May 2, 2012

Introduced by Sen. KLEIN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Finance -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT in relation to establishing the task force on responsible gaming; 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. Legislative findings. a. The legislature hereby finds that the recently enacted 2012-2013 state budget amended the state constitution to allow for non-tribal casino gaming in the state. It also included provisions to create a New York state gaming commission, as a result of the merger between the division of lottery and the racing and wagering board. The commission is charged with oversight of the division of lottery, the division of charitable gaming, the division of gaming, and the division of horse racing and pari-mutuel wagering. This legislative action consolidated the state's gaming regulatory functions under a single oversight body.

b. The legislature further finds that the development of policies and procedures that foster responsible gaming practices by gaming facilities licensed or enfranchised by the New York state gaming commission or its divisions is necessary to mitigate the risks or consequences associated with problem gambling. The legislature concludes that this can be best accomplished by the creation of a task force on responsible gaming.

S 2. Task force on responsible gaming. A task force on responsible gaming is hereby established to:

(a) Identify policies and programs that mitigate the risks and consequences associated with compulsive gambling and promote responsible gaming practices for all gaming activities authorized in New York state.

(b) Recommend policies and procedures to be enacted into law or promulgated in regulations by the New York state gaming commission and its divisions to ensure responsible gaming in all facilities licensed or enfranchised by such commission or divisions.

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

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(c) Recommend a structure by which all responsible gaming regulations promulgated by the commission or its divisions shall be enforced, including but not limited to penalties for violations of regulatory standards and corrective action.

(d) Identifying methods to measure effectiveness of any responsible gaming procedures implemented.

(e) Identify and recommend provisions necessary to ensure responsible gaming practices to be included in enabling legislation authorizing casino style gaming facilities in the state.

S 3. Composition. The task force shall consist of 9 members. Task force members appointed or designated shall have experience and expertise in one or more of the following areas:

1) the identification and prevention of problem gambling;

2) the treatment of problem gambling;

3) administration of problem gambling programs within a gaming facility.

The task force shall consist of 9 members as follows: two members to be appointed by the speaker of the assembly, two members to be appointed by the temporary president of the senate, the commissioner of alcoholism and substance abuse services or his or her designee, the executive director of the New York state gaming commission or his or her designee, the director of the division of lottery or his or her designee, the director of the division of gaming or his or her designee, and the director of the division of horse racing and pari-mutuel wagering or his or her designee. The chair shall be designated by the governor.

S 4. Compensation. The members of the task force 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.

S 5. Report. The task force shall prepare a final report regarding all findings and recommendations to be delivered upon completion of all objectives described herein, but in no event later than April 1, 2014, to the governor, the speaker of the assembly and the temporary president of the senate. At the completion of all duties described herein the task force shall be dissolved.

S 6. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be deemed repealed April 1, 2014.