

4005--A

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

March 4, 2013

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Introduced by Sens. GRIFFO, LARKIN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations -- recommitted to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the legislative law, in relation to establishing the New York state independent budget office

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

1     Section 1. The legislative law is amended by adding a new article 4-B  
2     to read as follows:

3                                   ARTICLE 4-B

4                   NEW YORK STATE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE

5     SECTION 75. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE NEW YORK STATE INDEPENDENT BUDGET  
6     OFFICE.

7           76. DIRECTOR OF THE NEW YORK STATE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE.

8     S 75. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE NEW YORK STATE INDEPENDENT BUDGET  
9     OFFICE. THERE SHALL HEREBY BE ESTABLISHED A NEW YORK STATE INDEPENDENT  
10    BUDGET OFFICE. 1. IT SHALL BE THE DUTY OF THE NEW YORK STATE INDEPENDENT  
11    BUDGET OFFICE TO PROVIDE THE MEMBERS AND COMMITTEES OF THE LEGISLA-  
12    TURE WITH INFORMATION WHICH WILL ASSIST SUCH OFFICIALS AND BODIES IN THE  
13    DISCHARGE OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES WHICH ARE RELATED TO THE BUDGETARY  
14    PROCESS INCLUDING:

15       (A) INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO THE BUDGET, APPROPRIATIONS BILLS AND  
16       PROPOSED LAWS WITH FISCAL IMPLICATIONS;

17       (B) INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO ESTIMATED REVENUES AND RECEIPTS, AND  
18       CHANGING REVENUE CONDITIONS;

19       (C) INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO THE PERFORMANCE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF  
20       STATE AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS; AND

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

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(D) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, SUCH OTHER INFORMATION OR ANALYSES AS MAY BE REQUESTED BY SUCH OFFICIALS AND BODIES, AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

REQUESTS MADE BY THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY, THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, THE CHAIR OF THE ASSEMBLY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE AND THE CHAIR OF THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REGARDING THE BUDGET, REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES SHALL RECEIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION.

2. THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE SHALL COMPLETE A FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT: (A) FOR ANY BILL BEING CONSIDERED ON AN ASSEMBLY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE AGENDA OR A SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE; (B) FOR ANY BILL AT THE REQUEST OF THE SPEAKER OR MINORITY LEADER OF THE ASSEMBLY OR THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OR MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE; AND (C) AT THE REQUEST OF A COMMITTEE CHAIR OR RANKING MEMBER OF A COMMITTEE FOR ANY BILL REFERRED TO THEIR RESPECTIVE COMMITTEE. FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENTS SHALL ESTIMATE THE IMPACT ON STATE REVENUES OR EXPENDITURES.

3. THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE SHALL SUBMIT AN ANALYSIS OF THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET BY MARCH FIRST OF EACH YEAR TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, AND MAKE COPIES OF SUCH ANALYSIS AVAILABLE TO ALL OTHER MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND ALL OTHER INDIVIDUALS, UPON REQUEST.

4. THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE SHALL, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, DEVELOP PROPOSALS FOR COST EFFECTIVE ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES TO MEET THE PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STATE.

5. THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE SHALL PUBLISH A REPORT WITH RESPECT TO THE EXPECTED LEVELS OF STATE REVENUES BY THE FIRST DAY OF JANUARY, THE FIRST DAY OF APRIL, THE FIRST DAY OF JULY AND THE FIRST DAY OF OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR.

6. THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE SHALL PUBLISH BY DECEMBER FIRST OF EACH YEAR A REPORT ANALYZING THE FISCAL OUTLOOK OF THE STATE FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

7. THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE SHALL, FROM TIME TO TIME, PUBLISH SUCH REPORTS AS MAY BE APPROPRIATE TO ENHANCE THE OFFICIAL AND PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE BUDGETARY PROCESS AND OF THE BUDGET DOCUMENTS. SUCH OFFICE SHALL, FROM TIME TO TIME, PUBLISH SUCH REPORTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE TO PROVIDE SUCH INFORMATION, DATA AND ANALYSIS AS WILL ENHANCE OFFICIAL AND PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF MATTERS RELATING TO STATE REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND RELATED MATTERS.

8. THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE MAY PROCURE UP-TO-DATE COMPUTER EQUIPMENT, OBTAIN THE SERVICES OF EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS IN COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY, AND DEVELOP TECHNIQUES FOR THE EVALUATION OF REVENUE PROJECTIONS AND BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS.

9. ALL INFORMATION, DATA, ESTIMATES AND STATISTICS, AND ALL STUDIES AND REPORTS PREPARED BY THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AND SHALL ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE BY ELECTRONIC MEANS OVER THE INTERNET.

S 76. DIRECTOR OF THE NEW YORK STATE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE. 1. THE NEW YORK STATE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE SHALL BE HEADED BY A DIRECTOR WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED, UPON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF AN INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, BY THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY AND THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE. THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE INITIAL APPOINTMENT OF SUCH DIRECTOR SHALL BE MADE NO LATER THAN JANUARY FIFTEENTH, TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE. SUBSEQUENT RECOMMENDATIONS SHALL BE MADE BETWEEN JANUARY SECOND AND JANUARY FIFTEENTH EVERY SIXTH YEAR THEREAFTER. THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE SHALL APPOINT THE INITIAL DIRECTOR NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY FIFTEENTH, TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN AND SUCH INITIAL DIRECTOR SHALL TAKE OFFICE BEGINNING APRIL

1 FIRST, TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN. SUBSEQUENT APPOINTMENTS SHALL BE MADE NO  
2 LATER THAN FEBRUARY FIFTEENTH EVERY SIXTH YEAR THEREAFTER.

3 2. (A) THERE SHALL BE AN INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
4 CONSISTING OF (I) ONE PERSON APPOINTED BY EACH OF THE FOLLOWING OFFI-  
5 CIALS AND WHO SHALL SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF SUCH OFFICIALS; THE CHAIR  
6 AND RANKING MEMBER OF THE ASSEMBLY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE AND THE  
7 CHAIR AND RANKING MEMBER OF THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, AND (II) SIX  
8 OTHER MEMBERS JOINTLY APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY AND THE  
9 TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, WHO SHALL SERVE FOR SIX YEAR TERMS,  
10 PROVIDED, HOWEVER THAT OF THE MEMBERS FIRST APPOINTED, TWO SHALL SERVE  
11 FOR TERMS EXPIRING ON MARCH THIRTY-FIRST, TWO THOUSAND SEVENTEEN; TWO  
12 SHALL SERVE FOR TERMS EXPIRING ON MARCH THIRTY-FIRST, TWO THOUSAND NINE-  
13 TEEN; AND TWO SHALL SERVE FOR TERMS EXPIRING ON MARCH THIRTY-FIRST, TWO  
14 THOUSAND TWENTY. THE MEMBERS SHALL ALL BE INDIVIDUALS WITH EXTENSIVE  
15 EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE IN THE FIELDS OF FINANCE, ECONOMICS, ACCOUNT-  
16 ING, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS INCLUDING AT LEAST  
17 ONE NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED EXPERT IN THE FIELDS OF BUDGET THEORY AND THE  
18 BUDGET PROCESS; ONE DEAN OR DIRECTOR OR FORMER DEAN OR DIRECTOR OF A  
19 GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, PUBLIC AFFAIRS OR PUBLIC  
20 ADMINISTRATION LOCATED IN NEW YORK STATE; ONE OFFICER OR FORMER OFFICER  
21 OR ECONOMIC ADVISOR OF A LABOR UNION; ONE OFFICER OR FORMER OFFICER OR  
22 ECONOMIC ADVISOR TO A BUSINESS CORPORATION; AND ONE OFFICER OR FORMER  
23 OFFICER OF A CIVIC OR PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION INVOLVED IN  
24 BUDGET MATTERS. NO INDIVIDUAL SHALL SERVE CONSECUTIVE TERMS.

25 (B) THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL DEVELOP  
26 GUIDELINES FOR THE BEST PRACTICES OF THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE. THE  
27 INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL MEET ANNUALLY WITH  
28 THE DIRECTOR TO REVIEW SUCH GUIDELINES AND TO MAKE COMMENTS AND  
29 SUGGESTIONS ON THE OVERALL PRACTICES OF THE OFFICE.

30 (C) MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL RECEIVE NO COMPENSATION  
31 BUT SHALL BE REIMBURSED FOR REASONABLE EXPENSES INCURRED IN CONNECTION  
32 WITH THEIR DUTIES.

33 3. THE DIRECTOR OF THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE SHALL BE APPOINTED  
34 WITHOUT REGARD TO POLITICAL AFFILIATION AND SOLELY ON THE BASIS OF  
35 FITNESS TO PERFORM THE DUTIES ASSIGNED BY THIS ARTICLE. THE TERM OF  
36 OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR FIRST APPOINTED SHALL EXPIRE ON FEBRUARY  
37 FIFTEENTH, TWO THOUSAND TWENTY, AND THE TERMS OF OFFICE OF DIRECTORS  
38 SUBSEQUENTLY APPOINTED SHALL EXPIRE ON SUCH DATE IN EACH SIXTH YEAR  
39 THEREAFTER. ANY INDIVIDUAL APPOINTED TO FILL A VACANCY PRIOR TO THE  
40 EXPIRATION OF A TERM SHALL SERVE ONLY FOR THE UNEXPIRED PORTION OF SUCH  
41 TERM. AN INDIVIDUAL SERVING AS DIRECTOR AT THE EXPIRATION OF THE TERM  
42 MAY CONTINUE TO SERVE UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED. ANY DIRECTOR  
43 SERVING CONSECUTIVE TERMS SHALL BE RECOMMENDED BY THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET  
44 OFFICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY  
45 AND THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE FOR THE SECOND TERM. NO DIREC-  
46 TOR SHALL SERVE MORE THAN TWO TERMS CONSECUTIVELY.

47 4. TEN PERCENT OF THE APPROPRIATIONS MADE TO THE DIVISION OF THE BUDG-  
48 ET SHALL BE AVAILABLE TO PAY FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET  
49 OFFICE DURING EACH FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING WITH THE FIRST DAY OF APRIL  
50 AFTER THIS SECTION SHALL HAVE BECOME A LAW. THE DIRECTOR OF THE INDE-  
51 PENDENT BUDGET OFFICE SHALL APPOINT SUCH PERSONNEL AND PROCURE THE  
52 SERVICES OF SUCH EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS, WITHIN THE APPROPRIATIONS  
53 AVAILABLE THEREFOR, AS MAY BE NECESSARY FOR SUCH DIRECTOR TO CARRY OUT  
54 THE DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS ASSIGNED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE. SUCH  
55 PERSONNEL AND EXPERTS SHALL PERFORM SUCH DUTIES AS MAY BE ASSIGNED TO  
56 THEM BY THE DIRECTOR.

1       5. THE DIRECTOR OF THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE SHALL HAVE ACCESS AT  
2 ALL REASONABLE TIMES TO OFFICES OF STATE DEPARTMENTS, COMMISSIONS,  
3 BOARDS, BUREAUS AND OFFICES, TO INSTITUTIONS AND TO ALL STATE AUTHORI-  
4 TIES AND PUBLIC WORKS OF THE STATE AND THEY MAY, FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
5 OBTAINING INFORMATION AS TO THE METHOD OF OPERATION, GENERAL CONDITION,  
6 MANAGEMENT AND NEEDS THEREOF, EXAMINE THE BOOKS, PAPERS AND PUBLIC  
7 RECORDS THEREIN. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW SUCH STATE  
8 DEPARTMENTS, COMMISSIONS, BOARDS, BUREAUS, OFFICES, STATE AUTHORITIES  
9 AND INSTITUTIONS SHALL, THROUGH THEIR PROPER OFFICERS OR DEPUTIES,  
10 FURNISH TO THE DIRECTOR SUCH DATA, INFORMATION OR STATEMENTS AS MAY BE  
11 NECESSARY FOR THE PROPER EXERCISE OF HIS OR HER POWERS AND DUTIES AND  
12 FOR THE PURPOSE OF CARRYING INTO EFFECT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE.

13       6. THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL DETERMINE  
14 THE SALARY OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE.

15       S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.