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

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2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

(PREFILED)

January 9, 2013

Introduced by Sen. ADAMS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Recreation

AN ACT in relation to establishing a task force to improve theatrical show safety

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

Section 1. Legislative intent. Due to the growing use of pyrotechnic, acrobatic, and other extreme visual performance techniques there has been a growing concern for safety at theatrical shows. The concern for safety focuses on both the actors performing stunts as well as the audience watching them. Therefore, it is imperative that New York state create a task force to examine ways to improve safety at theatrical shows, strengthen the protection for actors, and minimize the risk of injury for the audience.

S 2. There is hereby established a task force to improve theatrical show safety. Such task force shall study and assess current safety conditions, standards and practices used during theatrical show rehearsals and performances and develop practices, strategies and policies to improve such safety.

S 3. Such task force shall consist of the following members:

a. one representative from the department of labor who shall be appointed by the commissioner of labor;

b. one representative from the consumer protection board appointed by the executive director of such board;

c. one representative from the attorney general's office appointed by the attorney general;

d. on representative from the council on the arts appointed by the chairperson of such council;

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

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e. one representative appointed by the temporary president of the senate;

f. one representative appointed by the minority leader of the senate;

g. one representative appointed by the speaker of the assembly; and

h. one representative appointed by the minority leader of the assembly.

S 4. The members of the task force appointed by the temporary president of the senate, the minority leader of the senate, the speaker of the assembly and the minority leader of the assembly shall have experience in acting, theater and/or stage production. Members shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority. Such members of the task force shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be reimbursed for all expenses actually and necessarily incurred by them in the performance of their duties. Vacancies in office shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

S 5. The task force shall report its findings and make recommendations with supporting legislation to the governor and the legislature within one year of the effective date of this act.

S 6. No part or provision of this act shall be construed to apply to the following:

1. television or cinematic productions filmed before an audience; or

2. theatrical productions performed by students of an educational facility, including but not limited to, kindergartens, primary schools, secondary schools and special schools set forth in title 6 of the education law.

S 7. This act shall take effect immediately.