

10199--A

I N A S S E M B L Y

May 16, 2016

Introduced by M. of A. ABINANTI -- read once and referred to the Committee on Election Law -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to create a temporary commission on consolidating the conduct of municipal elections by boards of elections; making an appropriation therefor; 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:

- 1 Section 1. A temporary state commission is hereby created to make
2 recommendations and prepare proposed legislation to: (i) consolidate the
3 conduct of all public entity elections by the county boards of
4 elections; and (ii) consolidate all public entity elections to the date
5 of the November general election or another date upon which multiple
6 public entity elections may be consolidated.
- 7 S 2. The commission shall consist of nine members, each to serve for a
8 term of two years, to be forthwith appointed as follows: two shall be
9 appointed by the temporary president of the senate and one by the minority
10 leader of the senate; two shall be appointed by the speaker of the
11 assembly and one by the minority leader of the assembly; three shall be
12 appointed by the governor. No more than four appointees shall be legislators.
13 By a majority vote, the commission shall designate the chair
14 and vice chair from among the appointees to the commission. Vacancies in
15 the membership of the commission and among its officers shall be filled
16 in the manner provided for original appointments.
- 17 S 3. The commission may employ and at pleasure remove such personnel
18 as it may deem necessary for the performance of its functions and fix
19 their compensation within the amounts made available therefor.
- 20 S 4. The commission may meet within and without the state, shall hold
21 public hearings, and shall have all the powers of a legislative committee
22 pursuant to the legislative law.
- 23 S 5. The members of the commission shall receive no compensation for
24 their services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses
25 incurred in the performance of their duties hereunder.

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

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1 S 6. To the maximum extent feasible, the commission shall be entitled
2 to request and receive and shall utilize and be provided with such
3 facilities, resources, and data of any court, department, division,
4 board, bureau, commission, or agency of the state or any political
5 subdivision thereof as it may reasonably request to properly carry out
6 its powers and duties hereunder.

7 S 7. The commission shall make a preliminary report to the governor
8 and the legislature of its findings, conclusions and recommendation not
9 later than December 31, 2017 and a final report of its findings, conclu-
10 sions and recommendations not later than April 30, 2018, and shall
11 submit with its report such legislative proposals as it deems necessary
12 to implement its recommendations.

13 S 8. The sum of seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars
14 (\$750,000.00), or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appro-
15 priated to the temporary commission on consolidating the conduct of
16 municipal elections by boards of elections out of any moneys in the
17 state treasury in the general fund, to the credit of the state purposes
18 account, not otherwise appropriated, and made immediately available, for
19 the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act. Such moneys
20 shall be payable on the audit and warrant of the comptroller on vouchers
21 certified or approved by the chair of the temporary commission estab-
22 lished by this act.

23 S 9. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire on May 1,
24 2018, when upon such date the provisions of this act shall be deemed
25 repealed.