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2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

(PREFILED)

January 7, 2015

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 FOR PEOPLE WITH DEVEL-
11 OPMENTAL DISABILITIES, THE DIVISION OF PROTECTIVE SERVICES FOR ADULTS OF
12 THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES, AND THE NEW YORK CITY
13 DEPARTMENT FOR THE AGING. OF THE EIGHT REMAINING MEMBERS, THREE SHALL BE
14 APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SPEAKER OF THE
15 ASSEMBLY, THREE SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AT THE RECOMMENDATION
16 OF THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, ONE SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE
17 GOVERNOR AT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE ASSEMBLY
18 AND ONE SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE
19 MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE, AND SHALL BROADLY REPRESENT HOUSING AND
20 SENIOR CITIZEN GROUPS FROM ALL GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF THE STATE INCLUDING
21 SERVICE PROVIDERS, ASSOCIATIONS, ADVOCATES, PROPRIETORS, AND CONSUMERS
22 OF FOR-PROFIT AND NOT-FOR-PROFIT SENIOR HOUSING OPTIONS INCLUDING BUT
23 NOT LIMITED TO: ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES, ADULT HOMES, SKILLED NURSING
24 FACILITIES, INDEPENDENT LIVING FACILITIES, NATURALLY OCCURRING RETIRE-

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

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1 MENT COMMUNITIES, NEIGHBORHOOD NATURALLY OCCURRING RETIREMENT COMMUNI-
2 TIES, AND CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES. MEMBERS SHALL RECEIVE
3 NO COMPENSATION FOR THEIR SERVICES BUT SHALL BE REIMBURSED FOR TRAVEL
4 AND OTHER EXPENSES ACTUALLY AND NECESSARILY INCURRED IN THE PERFORMANCE
5 OF THEIR DUTIES. THE TASK FORCE SHALL BE CO-CHAIRLED BY THE DIRECTOR OF
6 THE OFFICE AND THE COMMISSIONER OF THE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY
7 RENEWAL. THE TASK FORCE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONDUCTING A STATE-WIDE
8 ASSESSMENT OF SENIOR HOUSING NEEDS TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE VARIOUS
9 GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS AND DIFFERENT NEEDS OF THE SENIORS IN THOSE AREAS AND
10 RESOURCES AVAILABLE IN THOSE DIFFERENT AREAS AND PROJECT THOSE NEEDS
11 OVER THE NEXT TEN YEARS; OTHER FACTORS WHICH SHALL BE TAKEN INTO CONSID-
12 ERATION ARE: HEALTH CARE NEEDS OF SENIORS, THE LONG TERM CARE NEEDS OF
13 SENIORS, FINANCIAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO SENIORS, OR NEEDED BY SENIORS,
14 AND TRANSPORTATION NEEDS OF SENIORS. THE ASSESSMENT SHALL INCLUDE A
15 REVIEW OF INNOVATIVE APPROACHES SUCCESSFULLY BEING IMPLEMENTED IN OTHER
16 STATES AND THEIR POTENTIAL FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN THIS STATE. SUCH
17 ASSESSMENT SHALL ALSO DEVELOP A VIABLE PLAN FOR PROVIDING QUALITY SENIOR
18 HOUSING TO MEET THE PROJECTED NEEDS OF SENIORS WITH ACTIONS, STEPS AND
19 TIME FRAMES.

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

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