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

4868

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

April 22, 2015

Introduced by Sen. LITTLE -- (at request of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation) -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Recreation

AN ACT to amend the parks, recreation and historic preservation law, in relation to the resident curator program

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

Section 1. Subdivision 2-h of section 3.09 of the parks, recreation and historic preservation law as added by chapter 295 of the laws of 2014 is amended to read as follows:

2-h. Be empowered, in addition to any other provision of law authorizing the leasing of certain property under its jurisdiction, to establish a resident curator program to encourage investment, restoration and occupancy of buildings which serve no park-related purpose and which, if remain unoccupied, are at risk of progressive deterioration, by authorizing the leasing of such at-risk buildings on a competitive basis pursuant to the issuance of a request for proposal announced publicly including on the office website, for residential use only, as a single family dwelling, to individuals to be known as "resident curators" for terms of up to forty years in exchange for the resident curator assuming liability and financial obligation associated with the rehabilitation, maintenance and use of such buildings and any other property, real or personal, included in the lease. The length of the term of such leases shall relate to the financial investment to be made by the resident curator which will be required to rehabilitate and maintain the building for residential occupancy. The amount of rent to be charged, which may be nominal, shall be based on an assessment of fair market value taking into account the projected cost of rehabilitating the building invested by the resident curator. Any lease executed pursuant to this section shall: require the resident curator to comply with all laws, rules and

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

LBD09614-02-5

regulations and maintain appropriate insurance coverage associated with the rehabilitation, maintenance and use of the leased premises; prohibit the resident curator from using the leased premises except in accordance with criteria to be determined by the commissioner; prohibit the resident curator from using the leased premises as security for any debt, or from assigning or subletting the premises except as authorized by the commissioner; and require the commissioner to determine in his or her sole discretion when the restoration is complete. Upon termination of any lease executed pursuant to this section, full use and enjoyment of the property reverts automatically to the state. No lease entered into in the resident curator program shall result in the displacement of any currently employed worker or loss of position, including the partial displacement such as reduction in the hours of non-overtime labor, wages or employee benefits, the diminishment of benefits, or seniority rights provided to such employee in the civil service law, or result in the impairment of existing collective bargaining agreements. The commissioner is authorized to lease for the purpose of residential occupancy IN THE SEVENTH PARK REGION THE HAYES HOUSE AT MILLS-NORRIE STATE PARK; in the ninth park region, the building identified as LI 73 Lab residence at Cold Spring Harbor state park, the Hollins House at Heckscher State Park, THE BUILDING IDENTIFIED AS LI 72 POLICE BOARDING HOUSE AT CALEB SMITH STATE PARK PRESERVE, and the building identified as LI 40 house at Hither Hills State Park; AND IN THE TWELFTH PARK REGION THE GERICKE FARM HOUSE AT CLAY PIT PONDS STATE PARK PRESERVE. The Commissioner shall adopt rules and regulations for the resident curator program, which shall include, but not be limited to, criteria for selecting responsible resident curators, criteria for establishing length of terms for leases, criteria for determining the amount of rent to be charged to resident curators which may be nominal factoring in the capital investment required to rehabilitate and maintain the leased premises and determining appropriate uses and restrictions on use of leased premises in the resident curator program, including whether and under what circumstances public access is appropriate to property in the resident curator program.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.