STATE OF NEW YORK

8703

IN SENATE

May 10, 2018

Introduced by Sen. SEPULVEDA -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations

AN ACT relating to establishing a legislative committee on racial equity in the New York state senate

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. a. There is hereby created the legislative committee on racial equity in the New York state senate. The committee shall provide a racial equity impact assessment on all legislation that is reported favorably to the senate. The committee shall solicit input from members of the public, especially those individuals with expertise related to racial equity issues, to aid the committee in its work.

b. The committee shall consist of the senate majority leader, senate minority leader, and ten members appointed by the temporary president of the senate who are representative of the racial diversity that exists in New York state. Any vacancies occurring among the members of the committee shall be filled in the manner of the original appointment.

c. The committee shall (1) prepare a racial equity impact assessment on all legislation that is reported favorably to the senate to minimize unanticipated adverse consequences by utilizing resources that have a: (i) history of expertise and positive outcomes in racial equity; and (ii) a deep understanding of ameliorating disproportionate outcomes and unintended costs; (2) hold a hearing on any matter relating to the functions of the committee; (3) identify state policies and actions that, in conjunction with public and private partners and in support of racial equity, can work to achieve conditions of such; (4) review and make recommendations to align state statutes, regulations, programs, services and budgetary priorities; (5) search for any interdepartmental gaps, inconsistencies and inefficiencies in the implementation or attainment of the state policies and actions; (6) identify any new laws, regulations, programs, services, and budgetary priorities that are needed to ensure and promote desired conditions of racial equity; (7) serve as an

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

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informational resource for the senate; and (8) perform other activities, including public awareness.

d. The committee shall have the same powers as other standing or select committees of the legislature.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.