

STATE OF NEW YORK

5929

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 8, 2017

Introduced by Sen. AVELLA -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Children and Families

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to establishing a child care availability taskforce to evaluate the need for and availability of child care throughout the state

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

1 Section 1. The social services law is amended by adding a new section
2 390-k to read as follows:

3 § 390-k. Child care availability taskforce. 1. There shall be estab-
4 lished within the office of children and family services a child care
5 taskforce for the purpose of evaluating the need for and availability of
6 child care throughout the state.

7 2. The taskforce shall be chaired by the commissioners of the office
8 of children and family services and the office of temporary and disabil-
9 ity assistance, or their designees. Members of the taskforce shall serve
10 without compensation for three year terms, but may be reimbursed for
11 actual costs incurred for participation on such taskforce. Members of
12 the taskforce shall be appointed by the governor and comprised as
13 follows:

14 (a) two individuals shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the
15 speaker of the assembly, at least one of whom shall be a parent who has
16 utilized subsidized child care;

17 (b) two individuals shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the
18 temporary president of the senate, at least one of whom shall be a
19 parent who has utilized subsidized child care;

20 (c) two representatives of a child care resource and referral agency;

21 (d) two representatives of home-based child care providers;

22 (e) two representatives of center-based child care providers; and

23 (f) two representatives from the business community.

24 3. The taskforce shall examine the following:

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

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1 (a) access to subsidized child care, including the percentage of the
2 eligible population receiving a child care subsidy;

3 (b) cost of care for families eligible for but not receiving a child
4 care subsidy;

5 (c) availability of child care for non-traditional work hours;

6 (d) whether parents are voluntarily leaving the workforce due to lack
7 of affordable or accessible child care, and the demographic information
8 of such parents;

9 (e) whether employers have identified lack of child care as a reason
10 for a shortage of a qualified workforce;

11 (f) the impact of child care, or lack thereof, on economic development
12 throughout the state;

13 (g) varying levels of quality of care throughout the state;

14 (h) ways to address concerns identified in paragraphs (a) through (g)
15 of this subdivision; and

16 (i) anything else the taskforce deems necessary.

17 4. The taskforce shall report its findings and recommendations in
18 accordance with subdivision three of this section to the speaker of the
19 assembly and the temporary president of the senate no later than Decem-
20 ber thirty-first, two thousand seventeen, and annually thereafter.

21 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.