STATE OF NEW YORK

6948

IN SENATE

January 6, 2020

Introduced by Sen. COMRIE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend a chapter of the laws of 2019 establishing the 400 Years of African-American History Commission, in relation to the amount of members of such commission, the deadline such commission shall submit reports of its findings and to the effectiveness thereof

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

Section 1. Sections 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of a chapter of the laws of 2019 establishing the 400 Years of African-American History Commission, as proposed in legislative bills numbers S. 3204 and A. 7667, are amended to read as follows:

§ 2. (a) The commission shall consist of [~~thirteen~~] **fifteen** members, including the secretary of state, or his or her designee, the commissioner of education, or his or her designee, [~~three~~] **seven** members appointed by the governor, [~~three~~] **two** members appointed by the temporary president of the senate, [~~three~~] **two** members appointed by the speaker of the assembly, one member appointed by the senate minority leader, and one member appointed by the assembly minority leader. Appointed members shall include but not be limited to historians and those with a background in African-American history, arts, or culture. Such appointments shall be made within [~~30~~] **90** days of the effective date of this act.

(b) A vacancy on the commission shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(c) The members of the commission shall serve without compensation but shall be entitled to reimbursement for all necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

(d) The secretary of state, or his or her designee, shall serve as the chair and shall appoint the vice-chair of the commission. The presence of a majority of the authorized membership of the commission shall be required for the conduct of official business.

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

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(e) The department of state shall provide technical assistance and data to the commission as may be necessary for the commission to carry out its responsibilities pursuant to this act.

§ 4. [~~The commission may, from any monies appropriated for such purposes, provide:~~

~~(a) grants to communities and nonprofit organizations for the development of programs; and~~

~~(b) grants to research and scholarly organizations to research, publish, or distribute information relating to the arrival of Africans in New York and the United States.~~

~~§ 5.~~] The commission shall submit a report to the governor and the legislature that contains a summary of its planned activities, an accounting of its received and expended funds, and its findings and recommendations on or before October 1, [~~2019~~] **2020**.

§ [~~6~~] **5**. The commission shall submit a report to the governor and the legislature that contains a summary of its activities, a final accounting of its received and expended funds, and its findings and recommendations on or before June 1, [~~2021~~] **2022**.

§ [~~7~~] **6**. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be deemed repealed July 1, [~~2021~~] **2022**.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the same date and in the same manner as a chapter of the laws of 2019 establishing the 400 Years of African-American History Commission, as proposed in legislative bills numbers S. 3204 and A. 7667, takes effect.