

# STATE OF NEW YORK

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7489

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

May 7, 2019

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Introduced by M. of A. GUNTHER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Mental Health

AN ACT to create a temporary commission relating to the office of mental health housing programs; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

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

- 1 Section 1. 1. A temporary state commission, to be known as the "office  
2 of mental health housing program evaluation commission" (hereinafter  
3 referred to as the "commission") is hereby created to make determi-  
4 nations and recommendations on the following:
- 5 a. The adequacy of funding levels in scattered site supportive hous-  
6 ing, licensed community residences, licensed treatment apartments, and  
7 all other supportive housing (hereinafter referred to as "the  
8 programs"), under the auspices of the office of mental health.
- 9 b. The adequacy of the numbers of direct care staff as well as need  
10 for professional staff in the programs.
- 11 c. The level of programmatic needs of the residents and the ability of  
12 the programs' and/or the mental health system's ability to meet those  
13 needs.
- 14 2. The commission shall consist of nine members as follows: two  
15 members shall be appointed by the speaker of the assembly; two members  
16 shall be appointed by the temporary president of the senate; one member  
17 shall be appointed by the minority leader of the senate; one member  
18 shall be appointed by the minority leader of the assembly; and three  
19 members shall be appointed by the governor. The commission members shall  
20 be appointed within 30 days after this act shall have become a law.  
21 Members so appointed shall be representative of resident advocates,  
22 family members of residents, program provider organizations, licensed  
23 mental health professionals and related health care professionals. No  
24 member, officer or employee of the commission shall be disqualified from

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

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1 holding any other public office or employment, nor shall he or she  
2 forfeit any such office or employment by reason of his or her appoint-  
3 ment hereunder, notwithstanding the provisions of any general, special  
4 or local law, ordinance or city charter.

5 3. The members of the commission shall receive no compensation for  
6 their services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses  
7 incurred in the performance of their duties hereunder.

8 4. The commission shall make a report of its findings, including any  
9 recommendations for legislative action as it may deem necessary and  
10 appropriate, to the governor and the legislature no later than six  
11 months after the effective date of this act.

12 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be  
13 deemed repealed 6 months after such date.