STATE OF NEW YORK

4616

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 15, 2019

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

AN ACT in relation to creating the New York state Triangle Shirtwaist Fire 108th anniversary commemoration commission; 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:

Section 1. Legislative findings. 1. The legislature hereby finds and declares there is a need to create a New York state Triangle Shirtwaist Fire 108th anniversary commemoration commission to focus attention upon the 108th anniversary of the March 25, 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist Fire, during a commemoration period taking place March 25, 2019, through October 14, 2019, the anniversary of the date that the American Society of Safety Engineers was founded as a result of the fire.

2. The primary focus of the New York state Triangle Shirtwaist Fire 108th anniversary commemoration commission will be to plan and execute an organized series of Triangle Shirtwaist Fire educational and tourism events. The tourism events will highlight the following key sites: the site of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory, Mount Richmond Cemetery and Cemetery of the Evergreens.

3. The legislature finds that the creation of a New York state Triangle Shirtwaist Fire 108th anniversary commemoration commission is necessary to bring together persons qualified by experience or by powers vested in them by their offices to coordinate and facilitate such a historically important event.

§ 2. New York state Triangle Shirtwaist Fire 108th anniversary commemoration commission created. 1. There is hereby created a temporary state commission to be known as the "New York state Triangle Shirtwaist Fire 108th anniversary commemoration commission".

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

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2. Definitions. As used in this act: (a) "Commission" means the New York state Triangle Shirtwaist Fire 108th anniversary commemoration commission created by this section.

(b) "Historical interpreter" means a person who is a recognized member of a duly constituted organization approved by the host site and who participates in the main Triangle Shirtwaist Fire educational and tourism event for the year.

3. (a) The commission shall consist of 13 members to be appointed as follows: the commissioner of parks, recreation and historic preservation or his or her duly designated representative, the commissioner of education or his or her duly designated representative, the commissioner of economic development or his or her duly designated representative, the commissioner of labor or his or her duly designated representative, representatives from the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU), New York University, the National Women's Hall of Fame, Fire Department of New York, and the Fashion Institute of Technology, four members of the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire reenactment community of whom one shall be appointed by the temporary president of the senate, one shall be appointed by the speaker of the assembly, one shall be appointed by the minority leader of the senate and one shall be appointed by the minority leader of the assembly. The commissioner of parks, recreation and historic preservation or his or her duly designated representative shall serve as chairperson of the commission. The 13 appointed members shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing official. Appointments shall be made within 60 days of the effective date of this act. If a member misses three meetings his or her seat shall be considered vacant. Vacancies shall be filled in the manner provided for in the original appointments.

(b) The members of the commission shall receive no compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties.

(c) Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of any general, special or local law, ordinance, resolution or charter, no officer, member or employee of the state or of any public corporation shall forfeit his or her office or employment by reason of his or her acceptance of appointment as a member of the commission, nor shall service as such commission member be deemed incompatible or in conflict with such office or employment.

(d) The commission shall appoint such staff as may be necessary to carry out its duties.

§ 3. Powers and duties of the commission. The commission shall have the following powers and duties:

1. To coordinate the commemoration of the 108th anniversary of the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire.

2. To plan and execute an organized series of educational and tourism events focusing on the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire, the founding of American Society of Safety Engineers and the reinvigoration of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

3. To promote Triangle Shirtwaist Fire educational studies in grades kindergarten through 12 in New York state schools.

§ 4. Employment. The commission may employ and at pleasure remove such personnel as it may deem necessary for the performance of its functions. The commission may meet and hold public and private hearings within the state, and shall have all the powers of a legislative committee pursuant to the legislative law.

§ 5. Assistance and data. The commission may request and shall receive from any subdivision, department, board, commission, office, agency, or other instrumentality of the state or any political subdivision thereof such facilities, assistance and data as it deems necessary or desirable for the proper execution of its powers and duties and to effectuate the purposes set forth in this act.

§ 6. Agreements. The commission is hereby authorized and empowered to enter into any agreements and to do and perform any acts that may be necessary, desirable or proper to carry out the purposes and objectives of this act.

§ 7. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be deemed repealed October 14, 2020.