STATE OF NEW YORK

6553

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

June 16, 2019

Introduced by Sens. METZGER, MAY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT establishing the New York task force on agricultural investment; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon the expiration thereof

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

Section 1. This act shall be known and maybe cited as the "New York agricultural investment task force act".

§ 2. Legislative findings. The Legislature finds that it is in the public interest to have a viable agricultural sector in the state and to establish an agricultural investment task force that shall study, evaluate and develop budgeting and other recommendations relating to specific actionable measures to address farm sustainability in New York state.

§ 3. The New York task force on agricultural investment is hereby established to study and assess the future of agriculture in the state. Such task force shall consist of twelve members with demonstrated expertise in issues relating to the work of the task force. The members of the task force shall be appointed as follows:

(a) six members shall be appointed by the governor. Such members' expertise shall encompass, but not be limited to, the topic areas of agriculture, economic development, the environment, and workforce development. The six members appointed by the governor shall include: the commissioner of agriculture and markets, or his or her designee, who shall serve as the chairperson of the task force; the commissioner of labor, or his or her designee; the president of the New York state energy research and development authority, or his or her designee; the commissioner of environmental conservation, or his or her designee; the commissioner of housing and community renewal, or his or her designee; and the commissioner of economic development, or his or her designee;

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

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(b) two members shall be appointed by the temporary president of the senate;

(c) two members shall be appointed by the speaker of the assembly;

(d) one member shall be appointed by the senate minority leader; and

(e) one member shall be appointed by the assembly minority leader.

§ 4. All appointments shall be made no later than the fifteenth day after the effective date of this section. Vacancies in the membership of the task force shall be filled in the same manner provided for by the original appointments. The task force shall organize as soon as practicable following the appointment of its members. The chairperson shall appoint a secretary who shall not be a member of the task force. The members of the task force shall receive no compensation for their services.

§ 5. The task force shall study, evaluate and develop recommendations relating to the state of agriculture in the state and issues such as labor, workforce development, and economic conditions.

§ 6. The task force shall be entitled to request and receive, and shall utilize such facilities, resources and data of any court, department, division, board, bureau, commission or agency of the state or any political subdivision thereof as it may reasonably request to properly carry out its powers and duties.

§ 7. The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to the governor, the temporary president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly on or before November 1, 2019.

§ 8. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be deemed repealed one year after such date.