

STATE OF NEW YORK

7377

IN SENATE

January 22, 2020

Introduced by Sen. STEWART-COUSINS -- read twice and ordered printed,
and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Investigations
and Government Operations

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing an inter-
agency task force on hate crimes and domestic terrorism

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

1 Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 234 to
2 read as follows:

3 § 234. Establishment of interagency task force on hate crimes and
4 domestic terrorism. 1. There is established an interagency task force on
5 hate crimes and domestic terrorism, which shall consist of the following
6 members or their designees: (a) the superintendent of state police; (b)
7 the commissioner of the division of criminal justice services; (c) the
8 commissioner of the division of homeland security and emergency
9 services; (d) the director of the office of victim services; (e) the
10 director of the division of human rights; (f) one member, who shall be
11 appointed by the governor as a representative of a group or groups of
12 people who have been targeted by hate crime acts or acts of domestic
13 terrorism; (g) one member, who shall be appointed by the governor as a
14 representative of a group or groups who advocate for or otherwise repre-
15 sent communities who have been targeted by hate crime acts or acts of
16 domestic terrorism; (h) one member, who shall be appointed on the recom-
17 mendation of the temporary president of the senate; (i) one member, who
18 shall be appointed on the recommendation of the speaker of the assembly;
19 (j) one member, who shall be appointed on the recommendation of the
20 president of the New York state district attorneys association; (k) one
21 member, who shall be appointed on the recommendation of the president of
22 the New York state association of chiefs of police; and others as may be
23 necessary to carry out the duties and responsibilities under this
24 section. The task force will be co-chaired by the commissioner of the
25 division of criminal justice services and the superintendent of state
26 police, or their designees. It shall meet as often as is necessary, but
27 no less than four times per year, and under circumstances as are appro-

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

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1 priate to fulfilling its duties under this section. All members shall be
2 provided with written notice reasonably in advance of each meeting with
3 the date, time and location of such meeting.

4 2. The task force shall: (a) collect and organize data on the nature
5 and extent of hate crimes and domestic terrorism in the state; (b) iden-
6 tify available federal, state and local programs that provide services
7 to victims of hate crimes and acts of domestic terrorism; (c) coordinate
8 when necessary with the bureau of criminal investigations task force
9 defined in subdivision two of section two hundred sixteen of this arti-
10 cle on issues pertaining to hate crimes; (d) identify available federal,
11 state and local programs that provide services to prevent acts of hate
12 crimes and domestic terrorism; (e) consult with governmental and non-go-
13 vernmental organizations in developing recommendations to strengthen
14 state and local efforts to prevent hate crimes and acts of domestic
15 terrorism; (f) establish interagency protocols and collaboration between
16 federal, state, and local law enforcement, state and governmental agen-
17 cies, and non-governmental organizations; (g) evaluate approaches to
18 increase public awareness about hate crimes and domestic terrorism and
19 make recommendations on such approaches; (h) evaluate the effectiveness
20 of training programs on hate crimes and domestic terrorism that have
21 been designed for law enforcement personnel, prosecutors, other govern-
22 mental employees, and non-governmental organizations, and make recommen-
23 dations for improving the quality and effectiveness of such programs;
24 and (i) convene any subcommittee necessary to consider specific issues
25 as needed.

26 3. The task force shall report to the governor, the speaker of the
27 assembly, the minority leader of the assembly, the temporary president
28 of the senate and the minority leader of the senate no less than annual-
29 ly. Such report shall include data gathered by the task force on the
30 nature, extent, and incidence of hate crimes and domestic terrorism in
31 the state and a summary of any recommendations developed over the year
32 to strengthen state and local prevention efforts and any other informa-
33 tion deemed necessary. The task force shall additionally issue such
34 reports and recommendations as it deems necessary to carry out its
35 duties and responsibilities.

36 4. For the purposes of this section, "domestic terrorism" shall mean
37 the commission, or possible commission, of acts covered under article
38 four hundred ninety of the penal law, in which the perpetrator is or
39 would be a resident of the United States or an organization that oper-
40 ates exclusively or primarily within the United States.

41 § 2. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall
42 have become a law.