STATE OF NEW YORK

8751

IN SENATE

July 14, 2020

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

AN ACT to establish a task force to explore the effects of cyber-bullying in New York state and potential measures to address such effects; 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. A temporary task force is hereby established to conduct and submit a comprehensive study on the effects of, and potential methods to address, cyber-bullying. The scope of such study shall include:

a. identifying the most common victims of cyber-bullying by age, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation or any other identifying characteristic the members of the task force deem relevant;

b. determining the most common mediums used in cases of cyber-bullying, including but not limited to, text messages, websites, and social media;

c. identifying the social and psychological effects of cyber-bullying on individuals;

d. recommendations, based upon the findings of the task force, on the prevention of cyber-bullying;

e. identifying ways in which the state can better assist individuals who have been victims of cyber-bullying; and

f. identifying measures other states have taken to address cyber-bullying.

§ 2. a. The task force shall consist of nine members, which to the extent practicable shall be experts in the fields of child psychology, technology, law enforcement, mental health, or social services, or an appropriate field related to the mission of the task force, to be appointed as follows:

(1) five members appointed by the governor;

(2) two members appointed by the temporary president of the senate;

(3) two members appointed by the speaker of the assembly.

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

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b. The governor shall designate one of the appointees as the chair of the task force.

c. The members of the task force shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties pursuant to this act.

d. All appointments shall be made no later than ninety days after the effective date of this act. All vacancies shall be filled by the appointing authority in a timely manner.

§ 3. The task force shall report its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the governor, temporary president of the senate, and speaker of the assembly on or before July 1, 2022. Such report shall also be published on the website of the New York state office of mental health.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately and shall be deemed repealed December 31, 2022.