STATE OF NEW YORK

2414

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 19, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. STERN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Labor

AN ACT to amend the labor law, in relation to establishing the commission on the future of work; 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. The legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) New York state is committed to developing a plan to become the most competitive, durable, equitable and sustainable economy in the world, where technology innovation shall strengthen, not erode, the middle class.

(b) Technology, when put to work for the benefit of human society, has fueled progress throughout history, unlocking the growth of high-quality goods and services coupled with overall price reductions, dramatic reductions in poverty, disease, and famine, as well as leaps in science and the arts.

(c) Exponential growth in technology innovation, including automation and artificial intelligence, as well as broader economic trends of wage stagnation, declining workforce participation, rising income inequality, and growth in part-time, lower-wage jobs, compel New York state to update its planning around education, employment, and the economy as a whole to better understand, anticipate, and shape the future of work in the short and long term.

(d) The commission on the future of work is necessary to prepare New York state residents for the future of work and to ensure advancements in technology serve the construction of a durable middle class and sustainable economy.

§ 2. The labor law is amended by adding a new section 211-b to read as follows:

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

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§ 211-b. The commission on the future of work. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "New York state future of work act".

2. a. There is hereby established within the department the commission on the future of work.

b. Members of the commission shall be individuals with knowledge of, and expertise in, work, workforce development, labor, technology, or robotics or artificial intelligence, whether by experience or training.

c. The commission shall consist of eight members to be appointed as follows:

(i) four members appointed by the governor, including at least one representative from organized labor and one from the private sector;

(ii) one member appointed by the temporary president of the senate;

(iii) one member appointed by the speaker of the assembly;

(iv) one member appointed by the minority leader of the senate; and

(v) one member appointed by the minority leader of the assembly.

3. The commission on the future of work shall:

a. convene a public process to gather input and to understand the economic, social, workplace and technological landscape from the public, academics, and stakeholders;

b. commission research to understand the impact of technology on workers, employers, and the economy of the state;

c. advise the governor, the legislature, and state agencies, departments, and commissions on the impact of technology and automation on workers, the workplace and state workforce, the state budget, economy, safety net, and other areas related to the public good; and

d. develop recommendations on a policy framework to manage the development, deployment, regulation, taxation, and fair distribution of the benefits of technology used in the workplace that advances the interests of workers and the public.

4. On or before January first, two thousand twenty-three, the commission shall make a report of its findings, including any recommendations for legislative action as it may deem necessary and appropriate to the governor and the legislature.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire January 1, 2023 when upon such date the provisions of this act shall be deemed repealed.