

STATE OF NEW YORK

4228

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 1, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. ABINANTI -- read once and referred to the Committee on Election Law

AN ACT to create a temporary commission on consolidating the conduct of municipal elections by boards of elections; 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:

1 Section 1. A temporary state commission is hereby created to make
2 recommendations and prepare proposed legislation to: (i) consolidate the
3 conduct of all public entity elections by the county boards of
4 elections; and (ii) consolidate all public entity elections to the date
5 of the November general election or another date upon which multiple
6 public entity elections may be consolidated.

7 § 2. The commission shall consist of nine members, each to serve for a
8 term of two years, to be forthwith appointed as follows: two shall be
9 appointed by the temporary president of the senate and one by the minority
10 leader of the senate; two shall be appointed by the speaker of the
11 assembly and one by the minority leader of the assembly; three shall be
12 appointed by the governor. No more than four appointees shall be legislators.
13 By a majority vote, the commission shall designate the chair
14 and vice chair from among the appointees to the commission. Vacancies in
15 the membership of the commission and among its officers shall be filled
16 in the manner provided for original appointments.

17 § 3. The commission may employ and at pleasure remove such personnel
18 as it may deem necessary for the performance of its functions and fix
19 their compensation within the amounts made available therefor.

20 § 4. The commission may meet within and without the state, shall hold
21 public hearings, and shall have all the powers of a legislative committee
22 pursuant to the legislative law.

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

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1 § 5. The members of the commission shall receive no compensation for
2 their services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses
3 incurred in the performance of their duties hereunder.

4 § 6. To the maximum extent feasible, the commission shall be entitled
5 to request and receive and shall utilize and be provided with such
6 facilities, resources, and data of any court, department, division,
7 board, bureau, commission, or agency of the state or any political
8 subdivision thereof as it may reasonably request to properly carry out
9 its powers and duties hereunder.

10 § 7. The commission shall make a preliminary report to the governor
11 and the legislature of its findings, conclusions and recommendation not
12 later than December 31, 2021 and a final report of its findings, conclu-
13 sions and recommendations not later than April 30, 2022, and shall
14 submit with its report such legislative proposals as it deems necessary
15 to implement its recommendations.

16 § 8. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire on May 1,
17 2023, when upon such date the provisions of this act shall be deemed
18 repealed.