STATE OF NEW YORK

2208

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 20, 2021

Introduced by Sens. ADDABBO, KAPLAN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to establish a task force to study and make recommendations on school safety in the state of New York

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

Section 1. a. A task force is hereby established to study school safety at schools in the state of New York. For purposes of this act, "violence" shall mean any occurrence that may compel a school official to contact law enforcement for assistance.

b. The task force shall:

(i) study the frequency and seriousness of violence that occurs on school grounds;

(ii) study the causes of such violence, including the influence of:

(1) school size and environment;

(2) home environment and abuse;

(3) community environment;

(4) cyber abuse;

(5) psychological factors;

(6) media coverage of violent acts; and

(7) any other influences the task force deems relevant;

(iii) study current measures implemented by schools in the state of New York to increase school safety;

(iv) study measures other states and countries have implemented to increase school safety; and

(v) make recommendations on measures the state of New York may take in order to increase school safety.

c. No later than one year after the effective date of this act, the task force shall report its findings to the governor and the legislature, as described under subdivision b of this section.

§ 2. a. The task force shall be comprised of:

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

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(i) five members appointed by the governor;
(ii) five members appointed by the temporary president of the senate; and
(iii) five members appointed by the speaker of the assembly.
b. Of the five members appointed by the governor, temporary president of the senate, and speaker of the assembly, each shall appoint:
(i) one member with experience in teaching;
(ii) one member with experience as a mental health professional;
(iii) one member with experience in law enforcement;
(iv) one member with experience as a school administrator; and
(v) one member with experience as a school safety agent.
c. One of the appointments by the governor shall serve as chairperson of the task force.
d. 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 services.
e. All departments, divisions, bureaus, commissions, districts or agencies of the state or any political subdivisions thereof shall, at the request of the chairperson, provide the task force with such facilities, assistance and data as will enable the task force to carry out its powers and duties.
§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.