STATE OF NEW YORK

2216

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 20, 2021

Introduced by Sens. SERINO, SEPULVEDA -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Aging

AN ACT to amend the elder law, in relation to establishing the aging in place council

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

Section 1. The elder law is amended by adding a new section 216-a to read as follows:

§ 216-a. Aging in place council. 1. Definition. For the purposes of this section, the term "council" shall mean the aging in place council convened by the governor pursuant to this section.

2. Membership. (a) The aging in place council shall consist of the director, who shall serve, ex officio, as the chair of the council and who shall designate the vice chair, the commissioner of health and the superintendent of financial services who shall serve ex officio and who may designate representatives to act on their behalf, and eleven members appointed by the governor.

(b) The governor shall appoint eight members to the council on the recommendation of legislative leaders as follows:

(1) the temporary president of the senate shall recommend three members;

(2) the speaker of the assembly shall recommend three members;

(3) the minority leader of the senate shall recommend one member; and

(4) the minority leader of the assembly shall recommend one member.

(c) The governor shall appoint three members based on the recommendations of local area agencies on aging, who they consider to represent their membership reflective of state geography and needs.

3. Compensation. The members of the council, except those who serve ex officio, shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties under this section but shall receive

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

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no additional compensation for services rendered pursuant to this section.

4. Purpose. The purpose of the council shall be to study and provide recommendations on areas that could be improved to promote older persons aging in place, including, but not limited to:

(a) access to outdoor spaces and buildings;

(b) affordable transportation options;

(c) housing options for older residents;

(d) opportunities for older residents to participate in community activities;

(e) programs for older persons such as those promoting nutrition, health and wellness, as well as programs for caregivers;

(f) employment opportunities and training designed for older persons;

(g) access to technology and information sources that can connect older residents with needed resources;

(h) protections against elder abuse;

(i) home medical care; and

(j) reducing costs.

5. Meetings. The council, on call of the chair, shall meet at least twice each year and at such other times as may be necessary. The council may establish quorum requirements and other rules and procedures regarding conduct of its meetings and other affairs.

6. Report. The council shall prepare and issue a report on the council's findings and recommendations by October first, two thousand twenty-two to the governor, the temporary president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly.

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