STATE OF NEW YORK

4690

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 8, 2021

Introduced by Sen. SANDERS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs

AN ACT directing the department of homeland security and emergency services to conduct a study on domestic terrorism within the state and to make recommendations to address such terrorism; 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. For the purposes of this study "domestic terrorism" shall mean the commission, or possible commission, of acts covered under article 490 of the penal law, in which the perpetrator is or would be a resident of the United States or an organization that operates exclusively or primarily within the United States.

§ 2. The department of homeland security and emergency services shall conduct a study and make recommendations to combat domestic terrorism within the state. Such study shall, at a minimum:

(a) collect and organize data on the nature and extent of domestic terrorism in the state;

(b) review state and federal policies and protocols related to combatting domestic terrorism;

(c) identify available federal, state and local programs that provide services to victims of domestic terrorism;

(d) identify available federal, state and local programs that provide services to prevent acts of domestic terrorism;

(e) identify available federal, state and local programs and resources to support efforts to prevent radicalization and disrupt violent extremist networks;

(f) identify the role social media plays in the development of such extremist networks;

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

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(g) identify gaps and establish recommendations for interagency protocols and collaboration between federal, state, and local law enforcement, state and governmental agencies, and non-governmental organizations;

(h) evaluate approaches and establish recommendations to increase public awareness about domestic terrorism and make recommendations on such approaches, including ways by which the government can improve its sharing of information; and

(i) evaluate the effectiveness of training programs on domestic terrorism that have been designed for law enforcement personnel, prosecutors, other governmental employees, and non-governmental organizations, and make recommendations for improving the quality and effectiveness of such programs.

§ 3. The study shall also include recommendations for developing protocols that will address evolving threats while respecting constitutionally protected free speech and political activities and recommendations to strengthen state and local efforts to prevent acts of domestic terrorism.

§ 4. The study shall be completed and a report with any recommendations shall be submitted to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly within one year of the effective date of this act.

§ 5. This act shall take effect immediately; and shall expire and be deemed repealed 2 years after such date.