

# STATE OF NEW YORK

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598

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

(Prefiled)

January 6, 2021

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Introduced by Sen. MAY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Aging

AN ACT in relation to enacting the "reimagining long-term care task force" to create a task force to study the state of long-term care services in this state

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

1 Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as  
2 the "reimagining long-term care task force act".  
3 § 2. Reimagining long-term care task force; duties. There is hereby  
4 created the reimagining long-term care task force. Such task force shall  
5 study the state of long-term care services, options and challenges for  
6 older New Yorkers and reimagine how the state can better meet the exist-  
7 ing and projected needs of such New Yorkers in ways that prioritize  
8 safety and affordability, and enhance the quality of life for those in  
9 need of such care. In carrying out its task, the task force shall  
10 consider the full continuum of care available to older New Yorkers,  
11 including, but not limited to, community-based services, consumer-di-  
12 rected services, independent living, assisted living and skilled-nursing  
13 facility care. The task force shall study the limitations currently  
14 hampering quality care, both in home-based and facility-based settings,  
15 and consider potential models for improvement. In addition, the task  
16 force shall study the challenges and issues generated by the coronavirus  
17 pandemic, including, but not limited to, infection control protocols and  
18 enforcement, staffing shortages, lack of federally mandated crisis  
19 plans, visitation bans, and other factors that exacerbated the  
20 pandemic's toll on residents and staff of skilled nursing and other  
21 adult-care facilities. The task force shall utilize the findings of its  
22 study on the impact of the coronavirus pandemic to formulate recommenda-  
23 tions on how such skilled nursing and other adult-care facilities, as

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

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1 well as home care service agencies, can better care for and protect the  
2 overall well-being of residents and clients in any future emergency.

3 § 3. Membership. 1. The reimagining long-term care task force shall  
4 consist of 22 members as follows:

5 (a) the director of the office for the aging, or his or her designee;

6 (b) the commissioner of health, or his or her designee;

7 (c) the commissioner of labor, or his or her designee;

8 (d) the commissioner of the office for people with developmental disa-  
9 bilities, or his or her designee;

10 (e) two members appointed by the governor;

11 (f) two members appointed by the temporary president of the senate;

12 (g) two members appointed by the speaker of the assembly;

13 (h) one member appointed by the minority leader of the senate;

14 (i) one member appointed by the minority leader of the assembly;

15 (j) one representative of the AARP;

16 (k) one representative of New York Caring Majority;

17 (l) one representative of the Home Care Association of New York State  
18 (HCA-NYS);

19 (m) one representative of the Long Term Care Community Coalition;

20 (n) one representative of 1199;

21 (o) one representative of the New York State Nurses Association;

22 (p) one representative of LeadingAge;

23 (q) one representative of Healthcare Association of New York State  
24 (HANYS);

25 (r) one representative of the Association on Aging in New York; and

26 (s) one representative of the Empire State Association of Assisted  
27 Living.

28 2. Members of the task force shall broadly represent long-term care  
29 and senior-related interests, including persons with expertise in senior  
30 or long-term care advocacy, persons with expertise in addressing racial  
31 disparities in senior or long-term care, home care and facility based  
32 service providers, health care workers, community-based services,  
33 consumer-directed services, associations for seniors, health care asso-  
34 ciations, elder law representatives, and/or representatives of senior  
35 housing, including skilled nursing, independent facilities and services,  
36 assisted living facilities and services, and naturally occurring retire-  
37 ment communities.

38 3. The director of the office for the aging, or his or her designee,  
39 shall serve as chairperson of the task force.

40 4. No member of the task force shall be disqualified from holding any  
41 other public office or employment, nor shall he or she forfeit any such  
42 office or employment by reason of his or her appointment pursuant to  
43 this act, notwithstanding the provisions of any general, special or  
44 local law, ordinance or city charter.

45 5. The members of the task force shall receive no compensation for  
46 their services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses  
47 incurred in the performance of their duties pursuant to this act.

48 § 4. Assistance from state and local agencies. All departments and  
49 agencies of the state or subdivisions thereof, and local governments of  
50 this state shall, at the request of the chairperson, provide the task  
51 force such facilities, assistance and data to enable the task force to  
52 carry out its duties pursuant to this act.

53 § 5. Reports. 1. The task force shall report the findings of its study  
54 with respect to the coronavirus pandemic to the governor, the temporary  
55 president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly, on or before

1 December 1, 2021. Such report shall include recommendations for further  
2 action and legislation.

3 2. The task force shall report the findings of its full study to the  
4 governor, the temporary president of the senate and the speaker of the  
5 assembly, on or before May 1, 2022. Such report shall include recommen-  
6 dations for further action and legislation.

7 § 6. This act shall take effect immediately.