STATE OF NEW YORK

6501

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 4, 2021

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

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing the LGBTQ+ advisory board

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

Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new article 45-C to read as follows:

ARTICLE 45-C
LGBTQ+ ADVISORY BOARD

Section 959. Definitions.
959-a. LGBTQ+ advisory board established.
959-b. Powers and duties.

§ 959. Definitions. For the purposes of this article, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

1. "LGBTQ+ advisory board" or "board" shall mean the LGBTQ+ advisory board established pursuant to section nine hundred fifty-nine-a of this article.

2. "LGBTQ+" shall mean a member of the community consisting of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, and other non-cisgender individuals, or a reference to such community as a whole.

§ 959-a. LGBTQ+ advisory board established. 1. There is hereby established an advisory board to be known as the "LGBTQ+ advisory board".

2. The board shall be comprised of twenty-six members, to be appointed as follows:

(a) Twenty-one members who are non-legislative employees or officials, which shall consist of at least fifteen individuals who identify as LGBTQ+, shall be appointed by the governor and be subject to confirma-

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

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tion by the temporary president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly; and

(b) The following five ex-officio members:

(i) the secretary of state or their designee;

(ii) the commissioner of education or their designee;

(iii) the commissioner of health or their designee;

(iv) the commissioner of labor or their designee; and

(v) the executive director of the New York state office for the prevention of domestic violence or their designee.

3. Ex-officio members of the board appointed pursuant to paragraph (b) of subdivision two of this section shall serve terms coincident with their terms of office.

4. The initial appointment of board members pursuant to paragraph (a) of subdivision two of this section shall be staggered as follows: five members for a term of one year, five members for a term of two years, five members for a term of three years, and six members for a term of four years. After the initial staggering of terms, such board members shall be appointed for a term of four years. No such board member shall serve more than two consecutive four-year terms. The remainder of any such term to which a board member is appointed to fill a vacancy shall not constitute a term in determining such board member's eligibility for reappointment.

5. Appointments to fill board vacancies, other than by expiration of a term, shall be for the unexpired terms. Board vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments. All board members may be reappointed.

6. Board members shall receive no compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

7. The governor shall provide staff support to the board. All agencies of the state shall provide assistance to the board upon request.

§ 959-b. Powers and duties. The board shall have the powers and duties to:

1. Advise the governor regarding the development of economic, professional, cultural, educational, and governmental links between New York state and the LGBTQ+ community in New York state.

2. Undertake studies, sponsor symposiums, conduct research, and prepare factual reports to gather information to formulate and present recommendations to the governor relating to issues of concern and importance to the LGBTQ+ community in New York state.

3. Advise the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly as needed regarding any statutory, regulatory, or other issues of importance to the LGBTQ+ community in New York state.

4. Apply for, accept, and expend gifts, grants, or donations from the public, or private sources, including any matching funds as may be designated in an appropriation act, to enable it to better carry out its objectives.

5. Submit an annual report to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly detailing the actions of the board, and any recommendations of the board.

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