

STATE OF NEW YORK

7214

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

June 7, 2021

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

AN ACT to amend the legislative law, in relation to a non-partisan senate background review commission

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

1 Section 1. The legislative law is amended by adding a new article
2 5-A-1 to read as follows:

ARTICLE 5-A-1

NON-PARTISAN SENATE BACKGROUND REVIEW COMMISSION

Section 84. Non-Partisan senate background review commission.

6 § 84. Non-Partisan senate background review commission. 1. A legisla-
7 tive commission to be known as the non-partisan senate background review
8 commission is hereby established. The commission shall:

9 (a) review and verify the completeness and veracity of all background
10 investigations of executive nominations for advice and consent of the
11 senate;

12 (b) review and verify the completeness and veracity of responses of
13 nominees to the questionnaires provided for executive nominations for
14 advice and consent to the senate; and

15 (c) report to all legislative members on their findings as to
16 completeness and veracity.

17 2. The background review commission shall consist of five members
18 appointed jointly by the temporary president and the senate minority
19 leader. The chair of the commission shall be appointed jointly by the
20 temporary president and the senate minority leader.

21 3. The commission may request and shall receive from any court,
22 department, division, board, or bureau, commission, or agency of the
23 state such assistance and data as will enable the commission properly to
24 carry out its powers and duties hereunder.

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

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1 4. The members of the commission shall receive no compensation for
2 their services but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses
3 incurred in the performance of their duties hereunder.

4 5. Beginning September thirtieth, two thousand twenty-one when an
5 appointment to an office by the governor by and with the advice and
6 consent of the senate is communicated, in the form of a written nomi-
7 nation of a person for the office to the senate, the governor shall
8 provide a copy of any background investigation, and any other documents
9 related to the nomination of such individual, to the non-partisan senate
10 background review commission. In the event any such background investi-
11 gation, or other documents related to such nomination, is updated or
12 amended, the governor shall provide such updated or amended information
13 to the commission as soon as practicable, but no later than one week
14 before such nomination is expected to be voted on by the senate.

15 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.