STATE OF NEW YORK

2281

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 14, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. PRETLOW -- read once and referred to the Committee on Racing and Wagering

AN ACT to amend the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law, in relation to the gaming inspector general; and to repeal title 9 of article 13 of the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law relating to the gaming inspector general

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

Section 1. Sections 1368, 1369, 1370, and 1371 of the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law are renumbered sections 130, 131, 132, and 133.

§ 2. Title 9 of article 13 of the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law is REPEALED.

§ 3. Section 130 of the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law, as added by chapter 174 of the laws of 2013 and as renumbered by section one of this act, is amended to read as follows:

§ 130. Establishment of the office of gaming inspector general. **1.** There is hereby created [~~**within the commission**~~] the office of gaming inspector general. The head of the office shall be the gaming inspector general who shall be appointed by the governor by and with the advice and consent of the senate. The **gaming** inspector general shall serve at the pleasure of the governor. The **gaming** inspector general shall report directly to the governor. The person appointed as **gaming** inspector general shall, upon his or her appointment, have not less than ten years professional experience in law, investigation, or auditing. The **gaming** inspector general shall be compensated within the limits of funds available therefor, provided, however, such salary shall be no less than the salaries of certain state officers holding the positions indicated in paragraph (a) of subdivision one of section one hundred sixty-nine of the executive law.

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

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2. The gaming inspector general may not be employed with the gaming commission during their employment with the office or within two years after terminating employment with the office.

§ 3-a. Subdivision 1 of section 131 of the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law, such section as renumbered by section one of this act, is renumbered subdivision 1-a.

§ 4. The section heading, opening paragraph and subdivisions 6 and 7 of section 131 of the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law, as added by chapter 174 of the laws of 2013 and such section as renumbered by section one of this act, are amended and two new subdivisions 1 and 8 are added to read as follows:

[~~State gaming~~] **Gaming** inspector general; functions and duties. The [~~state~~] gaming inspector general shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

1. appoint such deputies, directors, assistants and other officers and employees as may be needed for the performance of their duties and may prescribe their powers and fix their compensation within the amounts available therefor;

6. recommend remedial action to prevent or eliminate corruption, fraud, criminal activity, conflicts of interest or abuse in the commission; [~~and~~]

7. establish programs for training commission officers and employees [~~regarding~~] **in regard to** the prevention and elimination of corruption, fraud, criminal activity, conflicts of interest or abuse in the commission[~~.~~]**; and**

8. make an annual report to the governor, the comptroller and the legislature concerning its work during the preceding year, and to make such further interim reports to the governor, the comptroller or the legislature as they shall deem advisable or require.

§ 5. The opening paragraph of section 132 of the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law, as added by chapter 174 of the laws of 2013 and such section as renumbered by section one of this act, is amended to read as follows:

The [~~state~~] gaming inspector general shall have the power to:

§ 6. Section 133 of the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law, as added by chapter 174 of the laws of 2013 and as renumbered by section one of this act, is amended to read as follows:

§ 133. Responsibilities of the commission and its officers and employees. 1. Every commission officer or employee shall report promptly to the [~~state~~] gaming inspector general any information concerning corruption, fraud, criminal activity, conflicts of interest or abuse by another state officer or employee relating to his or her office or employment, or by a person having business dealings with the commission relating to those dealings. The knowing failure of any officer or employee to so report shall be cause for removal from office or employment or other appropriate penalty under this article. Any officer or employee who acts pursuant to this subdivision by reporting to the [~~state~~] gaming inspector general or other appropriate law enforcement official improper governmental action as defined in section seventy-five-b of the civil service law shall not be subject to dismissal, discipline or other adverse personnel action.

2. The commission chair shall advise the governor within ninety days of the issuance of a report by the [~~state~~] gaming inspector general as to the remedial action that the commission has taken in response to any recommendation for such action contained in such report.

§ 7. This act shall take effect April 1, 2022.