

STATE OF NEW YORK

2684--A

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 22, 2021

Introduced by Sen. BROOKS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Finance -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to establish a task force on education funding and property tax reform

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

- 1 Section 1. Task force on education funding and property tax reform.
2 1. There is hereby created a task force on education funding and proper-
3 ty tax reform in New York state within the state education department.
4 The purpose of the task force shall be to conduct a comprehensive study
5 and provide recommendations on education funding and the role of proper-
6 ty taxes in funding New York's education system to ensure an effective,
7 efficient, and equitable system of funding public education. The task
8 force shall review and offer recommendations on the following:
9 (a) the current reliance on property taxes to fund New York's educa-
10 tion system, including its impact on taxpayers and high-need school
11 districts;
12 (b) district-specific factors, such as the impact of regional costs
13 and student need in education funding;
14 (c) federal changes which impact property taxes, including but not
15 limited to, the federal cap on the state and local tax deduction;
16 (d) community and school district income and wealth as it relates to
17 local property taxes;
18 (e) the use of property taxes to fund education in other states;
19 (f) spending disparities among neighboring school districts; and
20 (g) additional relevant factors that the task force deems necessary.
21 2. (a) The task force shall consist of seventeen members as follows:
22 (i) the commissioner of education or his or her designee, who shall
23 serve as chair of the task force;

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

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1 (ii) four people appointed by the governor;
2 (iii) four people appointed by the temporary president of the senate;
3 (iv) four people appointed by the speaker of the assembly; and
4 (v) four people appointed by the commissioner of education.
5 (b) All appointments of members of the task force shall be made no
6 later than thirty days after the effective date of this act. The task
7 force may begin its duties when a majority of the total number of posi-
8 tions have been appointed. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing
9 authority. The members of the task force shall receive no compensation
10 for their services.
11 3. The task force shall make a report to the governor, temporary pres-
12 ident of the senate and speaker of the assembly of its findings, conclu-
13 sions and recommendations on or before December 31, 2022.
14 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.