STATE OF NEW YORK

3638

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 30, 2021

Introduced by Sen. ORTT -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing a task force on veteran employment opportunities; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

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 section 352-a to read as follows:

§ 352-a. Veterans employment task force. 1. There shall be in the division a task force on veterans employment opportunities which shall consist of the following eleven members: the state director of veterans' services or his or her designee, who shall serve as the chair of the task force; the commissioner of the office of general services, or his or her designee; the president of the state civil service commission, or his or her designee; the commissioner of labor, or his or her designee; the adjutant general for the state of New York, or his or her designee; two members appointed by the temporary president of the senate, one of whom shall be a representative from the private sector; two members appointed by the speaker of the assembly, one of whom shall be a representative from the private sector; one member appointed by the minority leader of the senate; and one member appointed by the minority leader of the assembly.

2. No member of the task force shall be disqualified from holding any public office or employment, nor shall he or she forfeit any such office of employment by virtue of his or her appointment pursuant to this section.

3. Members of the task force shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their functions pursuant to this section.

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

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4. On an annual basis, the task force shall hold at least two public hearings. To the extent practicable, such hearings shall be held in different regions of the state. During the public hearings, the task force shall hear the testimony of voluntary witnesses, and may request the production of any documents which are subject to article six of the public officers law and that the task force deems reasonably necessary to carry out its responsibilities.

5. The task force shall issue a report on June 30, 2023, and every two years after such date, to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly. Such report shall include but not be limited to:

(a) recommendations on the development of new methods and programs aimed at assisting the state's veterans in finding and maintaining meaningful employment opportunities;

(b) an analysis of the current methods and programs;

(c) the impact on veteran employment by professional licensing;

(d) the impact of veteran contractor programs;

(e) the impact of tax credits and municipal grants for hiring unemployed veterans; and

(f) any private sector initiatives.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall have become a law; and shall expire and be deemed repealed December 31, 2025.