STATE OF NEW YORK

9177

IN SENATE

May 12, 2022

Introduced by Sen. COONEY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing the New York Asian American and Pacific Islander commission

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 295-a to read as follows:

§ 295-a. New York Asian American and Pacific Islander commission. 1. (a) There is hereby established within the division the New York Asian American and Pacific Islander commission. The commission shall consist of twenty-seven members representative of Asian American Pacific Islander communities including, but not limited to: the Bangladeshi, Cambodian, Chinese, Indian, Hmong, Indonesian, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Malaysian, Mongolian, Pakistani, Singaporean, Sri Lankan, Taiwanese, Thai, and Vietnamese communities. Such members shall have experience advocating on behalf of their community, and shall be appointed as follows:

(1) fifteen members shall be appointed by the governor;

(2) six members shall be appointed by the temporary president of the senate; and

(3) six members shall be appointed by the speaker of the assembly. The commissioner shall serve as chair of the commission.

(b) Each member of the commission shall serve a term of three years, except that in making the first appointments to the commission, nine members shall be appointed to serve for one year, nine for two years, and nine for three years. Each appointing authority shall allocate their respective appointments equally between the three terms of service. The members shall be eligible for reappointment and shall serve until their successors are appointed and qualified, and the term of the successor of any incumbent shall be calculated from the expiration of the term of that incumbent. A vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term

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

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shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment, but for the unexpired term only.

(c) A majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting the business thereof and a majority vote of all the members in office shall be necessary for action.

2. The commission shall:

(a) develop policies to improve the community, economic and social well-being, and the health and educational needs important to Asian American and Pacific Islander communities in the state;

(b) develop and coordinate statewide programs, recognizing the continuing contributions of Asian American and Pacific Islander individuals in the state;

(c) create and implement public education campaigns regarding Asian American and Pacific Islander issues and culture;

(d) increase the awareness among Asian American and Pacific Islander individuals of state and local resources that may benefit Asian American and Pacific Islander individuals and communities as a whole; and

(e) undertake any other activities the commission deems necessary and applicable to support Asian American and Pacific Islander communities in the state.

3. The members of the commission shall serve without compensation, but they shall be entitled to reimbursement for all necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The division may provide the commission with such staff, equipment, and facilities as it may need.

4. The commission shall submit an annual report on its activities to the governor and the legislature.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.