STATE OF NEW YORK

3301--A

R. R. 338

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 2, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. RAJKUMAR, KIM, MAMDANI, BICHOTTE HERMELYN, DILAN, ROZIC, PAULIN, WEPRIN, LAVINE, SAYEGH, PHEFFER AMATO, JOYNER, LUCAS, VANEL, WALLACE, McMAHON, BENEDETTO, CRUZ, D. ROSENTHAL, REYES, SEPTIMO, LUNSFORD, HEVESI, OTIS, STERN, L. ROSENTHAL, CLARK, BARRETT, EPSTEIN, GLICK, BURGOS, SILLITTI, DE LOS SANTOS, ANDERSON, RAGA, GONZALEZ-ROJAS, SIMON, LEE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations -- reported and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means -- reported and referred to the Committee on Rules -- ordered to a third reading -- amended on the special order of third reading, ordered reprinted as amended, retaining its place on the special order of third reading

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 fifteen members representative of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities which may include, but not be limited to: the Bangladeshi, Bhutanese, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Hmong, Indian, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Malaysian, Mongolian, Nepalese, 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) seven members shall be appointed by the governor;

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

(3) three members shall be appointed by the speaker of the assembly;

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

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(4) one member shall be appointed by the minority leader of the senate; and

(5) one member shall be appointed by the minority leader 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, four members shall be appointed to serve for one year, four for two years, and seven for three years. The first appointments made by the temporary president of the senate and speaker of the assembly shall be allocated equally between the three terms of service. The first appointments made by the minority leaders shall serve for three years. The first appointments made by the governor shall be as follows: two members shall be appointed to serve for one year, two members shall be appointed to serve for two years, and three members shall be appointed to serve for three years. 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 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.