

STATE OF NEW YORK

8981

IN SENATE

April 5, 2024

Introduced by Sen. HELMING -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Finance

AN ACT in relation to establishing the home flooding prevention and mitigation task force; 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:

1 Section 1. Home flooding prevention and mitigation task force. 1.
2 There is hereby created, within the department of state, the home flood-
3 ing prevention and mitigation task force, which shall consist of 11
4 members who shall be appointed as follows:

5 (a) the secretary of state, or their designee;

6 (b) the commissioner of environmental conservation, or their designee;

7 (c) the director of the state emergency management task force, or
8 their designee;

9 (d) the superintendent of insurance, or their designee;

10 (e) one member to be appointed by the governor;

11 (f) one member to be appointed by the temporary president of the
12 senate;

13 (g) one member to be appointed by the speaker of the assembly;

14 (h) one member to be appointed by the senate minority leader;

15 (i) one member to be appointed by the assembly minority leader;

16 (j) one member to be appointed by the largest trade group representing
17 homebuilders; and

18 (k) one member to be appointed by the largest trade group representing
19 flood insurance companies.

20 2. The at large members shall have expertise in one or more of the
21 following areas: construction; flood insurance; climatology; hydrology;
22 economics; marine fisheries; law enforcement and emergency management;
23 resilient infrastructure; geographic mapping and spatial analysis; and
24 urban planning and sustainable development.

25 3. Task force members shall receive no compensation for their services
26 but shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in
27 the performance of their duties.

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

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1 4. The chairperson of the task force shall be voted on by the task
2 force members. The task force shall meet no less than six times and at
3 other times at the call of the chairperson.

4 5. Any vacancies on the task force shall be filled in the manner
5 provided for in the initial appointment.

6 6. The task force shall be authorized to hold public hearings and
7 meetings to enable it to accomplish its duties.

8 7. The task force may consult with any organization, educational
9 institution, other government entity or agency or person in the develop-
10 ment of its report required by subdivision 11 of this section.

11 8. The department of state shall provide the task force with such
12 facilities, assistance and data as will enable the task force to carry
13 out its powers and duties. Additionally, all other agencies of the state
14 or subdivisions thereof may, at the request of the chairperson, provide
15 the task force with such facilities, assistance, and data as will enable
16 the task force to carry out its powers and duties.

17 9. The purpose of the home flooding prevention and mitigation task
18 force shall be to study the impact of coastal and inland waterway flood-
19 ing on residential homes, including, but not limited to:

20 (a) the monetary value of damage caused on an annual basis;

21 (b) the number of homes impacted on an annual basis;

22 (c) the number of homes in New York located in flood plains, as desig-
23 nated by the federal emergency management agency;

24 (d) the impact of increased flooding on flood insurance rates;

25 (e) changes needed in construction materials, standards, techniques
26 and building codes to mitigate damage caused by flooding;

27 (f) coastal and inland waterway land use that contributes to flooding;
28 and

29 (g) flood mitigation techniques to be used by municipalities in coas-
30 tal and inland waterway residential areas.

31 10. The task force shall be appointed no later than 60 days after the
32 effective date of this act.

33 11. No later than December 31, 2025, the task force shall submit to
34 the governor, the temporary president of the senate, the speaker of the
35 assembly, the minority leader of the senate, and the minority leader of
36 the assembly, a report detailing its findings, including recommendations
37 for implementation.

38 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be
39 deemed repealed January 1, 2026.