

STATE OF NEW YORK

1436

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 17, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. ROZIC -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT authorizing and directing the committee on open government to study proactive disclosure as a means of increasing transparency and access to government information

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

1 Section 1. Legislative findings. The legislature finds that the
2 current freedom of information law, enacted in 1977, has served as a
3 critical vehicle under which the public has gained access to records of
4 state and local governmental entities. The legislature further finds
5 that the freedom of information law places the burden on the individual
6 to request information from an agency, but that the use of current
7 information technology, combined with a commitment to proactive disclosure,
8 has the potential to provide information to the public to an even
9 greater degree than does the current law.

10 § 2. The New York state committee on open government is hereby authorized and directed to: (a) study the feasibility of requiring agencies, as defined in subdivision 3 of section 86 of the public officers law, to proactively disclose documents that are available under article 6 of the public officers law; (b) make specific findings and legislative recommendations relating to mandatory proactive disclosure by agencies; (c) estimate the costs or savings of proactive disclosure; and (d) report its findings to the governor, the temporary president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly no later than January 31, 2026.

19 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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