STATE OF NEW YORK

8406

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

December 13, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. FORREST -- read once and referred to the Committee on Economic Development

AN ACT to amend the economic development law, in relation to establishing an immigrant integration advisory board for each economic development region

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

Section 1. The economic development law is amended by adding a new section 233 to read as follows:

§ 233. Immigrant integration advisory boards established. 1. Each regional economic development council shall establish an immigrant integration advisory board.

2. (a) Each board shall be comprised of nine members, to be appointed by each regional economic development council.

(b) Each board shall include one chair and one co-chair, to be appointed by the chair of each regional economic development council.

(c) All members appointed to each board shall be representative of the immigrant communities within each economic development region.

(d) All members of each board shall be appointed within ninety days of the effective date of this section.

3. Vacancies in the membership of the commission shall be filled in the same manner provided for original appointments.

4. Each board shall meet no less than four times per year.

5. Each board shall have the powers and duties to:

(a) Advise each regional economic development council regarding immigrant integration in that economic development region and the development of policies designed to meet the needs of the immigrant community in such economic development region.

(b) (i) Submit an annual report to the chair of each regional economic development council no later than sixty days prior to the deadline for

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

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each regional economic development council to submit requests for funding from the state.

(ii) Such report shall detail the actions of the board and any recommendations of the board to address issues of concern and importance to the immigrant community in that economic development region.

(iii) Such recommendations shall include how the work of and funding for each regional economic development council can better support the educational attainment, English language acquisitions, workforce development, job opportunities, and entrepreneurship assistance for immigrant communities within each economic development region.

(iv) Such recommendations shall be shared by the chair of each regional economic development council with all members of such regional economic development council, and shall be included in each annual report of each regional economic development council.

6. For the purposes of this section, "immigrant integration" shall mean policies and programs that will help to advance the economic, social, and civic integration of foreign-born New Yorkers.

7. Board members shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

8. To effectuate the purposes of this section, the board may request from any department, board, bureau, commission or other agency of the state, and the same are authorized to provide, such cooperation and assistance, services and data as will enable the board to properly carry out its functions pursuant to this section.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the forty-fifth day after it shall have become a law.