STATE OF NEW YORK

8978--A

IN ASSEMBLY

January 31, 2024

Introduced by M. of A. WOERNER, GUNTHER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Tourism, Parks, Arts and Sports Development -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the arts and cultural affairs law, in relation to requiring the council on the arts to have members from each of the ten regions of the state

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

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 3.03 of the arts and cultural affairs law, as amended by chapter 205 of the laws of 2008, is amended to read as follows:

1. **(a)** The council on the arts in the executive department is hereby continued. The twenty-one members shall be, broadly representative of all fields of the performing and fine arts, to be appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, from among private citizens who are widely known for their professional competence and experience in connection with the performing and fine arts**; provided, however, that the council shall have at least one member from each of the ten regions of the state, as such regions are defined by the empire state development corporation**. In making such appointments, due consideration shall be given to the recommendations made by representative civic, educational and professional associations and groups, concerned with or engaged in the production or presentation of the performing and fine arts generally.

(b) No amendments made to this section shall require any council member appointed prior to the effective date of such amendments to vacate their seat prior to the natural end of their term.

(c) The council on the arts shall not be out of compliance with this section provided that, to the extent practicable, as each new successive vacancy occurs, the appointment made for such vacancy shall move the composition of the council closer to the requirement that each of the ten regions of the state as defined by the empire state development corporation be represented by at least one member of the council.

§ 2. 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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