

STATE OF NEW YORK

1554--A

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 12, 2023

Introduced by Sen. ADDABBO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Labor -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT in relation to creating a temporary commission to conduct a comprehensive study on the current utilization of paid family leave, make recommendations on how to increase access and the visibility of the program; 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. A temporary state commission is hereby created to conduct a
2 comprehensive study, and prepare a report on the current utilization of
3 paid family leave under article 9 of the workers' compensation law.
4 § 2. (a) The commission shall consist of ten members, six such
5 members each to serve for a term of one year and to be appointed as
6 follows: two shall be appointed by the temporary president of the senate
7 and one by the minority leader of the senate; two shall be appointed by
8 the speaker of the assembly and one by the minority leader of the assem-
9 bly. The commissioner of labor, the superintendent of financial
10 services, the chair of the Business Council of the State of New York and
11 the chair of the workers' compensation board shall also serve on the
12 commission. The chair of the workers' compensation board shall serve as
13 the chair of the commission. Vacancies in the membership of the commis-
14 sion and among its officers shall be filled in the manner provided for
15 original appointments.
16 (b) The members of the commission shall receive no compensation for
17 their services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses
18 incurred in the performance of their duties hereunder.

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

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1 § 3. The study shall examine the current utilization of paid family
2 leave under article 9 of the workers' compensation law, including but
3 not limited to:

4 (a) demographic information of persons receiving such benefits includ-
5 ing but not limited to:

6 (i) gender;

7 (ii) race;

8 (iii) age;

9 (iv) geographic region of the state of New York; and

10 (v) industry or type of employment;

11 (b) the average amount of benefits received and length of leave taken;

12 (c) the type of leave taken;

13 (d) employers' experiences on the use of paid family leave, including:

14 (i) ease of use; and

15 (ii) responsiveness of the department to questions; and

16 (e) unintended barriers that employees face in utilizing paid family
17 leave including but not limited to:

18 (i) understanding of benefits;

19 (ii) knowledge of eligibility; and

20 (iii) knowledge of the existence of paid family leave.

21 § 4. Not later than one year after the effective date of this act, the
22 commission shall prepare and submit to the governor, the temporary pres-
23 ident of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly a report of the
24 study's findings, together with specific recommendations for increasing
25 the access of demographic groups underutilizing paid family leave bene-
26 fits, and removing or lessening unintended barriers to use of paid fami-
27 ly leave identified in the study.

28 § 5. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be
29 deemed repealed two years after it shall have become a law.