STATE OF NEW YORK

2495

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 20, 2023

Introduced by Sen. MANNION -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Children and Families

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to tasking the child care availability taskforce with evaluation of the office of children and family services' regulations regarding minimum supervision ratios based on group size for infants, toddlers and preschoolers

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

Section 1. Legislative findings and intent. The legislature hereby declares that many New Yorkers face the difficulty of living within a child care desert. New York State has begun the process of remedying the issue of the lack of child care through the creation of the child care availability taskforce. The legislature has an obligation to include under their jurisdiction an evaluation of regulations regarding staffing ratios set forth by the office of children and family services.

§ 2. Subdivision 3 of section 390-k of the social services law, as amended by chapter 133 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

3. The taskforce shall:

(a) examine the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on child care in New York state;

(b) advise the state in developing an implementation framework leading to a phased-in rollout of universal child care using existing state and federal resources;

(c) recommend potential solutions, partnerships, or other ways to address chronic child care workforce issues and other concerns identified in the course of the examination required by this subdivision;

(d) assess the implementation of policies supported by federally funded programs through various stimulus packages; [~~and~~]

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

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(e) **evaluate the effectiveness of the office of children and family services' regulations regarding minimum supervision ratios based on group size for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers; and**

(f) anything else the taskforce deems necessary.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately; provided that the amendments to section 390-k of the social services law made by section two of this act shall not affect the repeal of such section and shall be deemed repealed therewith.