STATE OF NEW YORK

6611--A

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 6, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. BORES -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations -- recommitted to the Committee on Governmental Operations in accordance with Assembly Rule 3, sec. 2 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the legislative law, in relation to the law revision commission

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

Section 1. Section 70 of the legislative law, as amended by chapter 239 of the laws of 1944, is amended to read as follows:

§ 70. Commission [~~created~~] **continued**; terms and qualifications of members. A law revision commission is hereby [~~created~~] **continued**, [~~to~~] **and shall** consist of the [~~chairman~~] **chairs** of the committees on the judiciary and codes of the senate and assembly, ex-officio, and [~~five~~] **nine** additional members, **five members** to be appointed by the governor**, one member to be appointed by the temporary president of the senate, one member to be appointed by the speaker of the assembly, one member to be appointed by the chief judge of the court of appeals and one member to be appointed by the attorney general**. The members first appointed by the governor **following the effective date of the chapter of the laws of two thousand twenty-six that amended this section** shall be appointed for such terms that the term of one member will expire on each succeeding thirty-first day of December. **The member first appointed by the temporary president of the senate shall be appointed for a term of three years. The member first appointed by the speaker of the assembly shall be appointed for a term of five years. The member first appointed by the chief judge of the court of appeals shall be appointed for a term of four years. The member first appointed by the attorney general shall be appointed for a term of five years.** The term of a member thereafter appointed, except to fill a vacancy occurring otherwise than by expira-

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

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tion of term, shall be five years from the expiration of the term of [~~his~~] such member's predecessor. A vacancy in the office of a member [~~appointed by the governor~~] occurring otherwise than by expiration of term, shall be filled by the [~~governor~~] appointing authority for only the remainder [~~only~~] of the term of such member's predecessor. [~~Upon making the original appointments~~] In July of each year, the [~~governor~~] commission's membership shall designate one of the appointed members as [~~chairman~~] chair of the commission. [~~Upon~~] A vacancy in the [~~appointment~~] office of [~~a successor to~~] the [~~chairman~~] chair of the commission occurring otherwise than by expiration of term, [~~the governor~~] shall [~~designate such successor or other member of~~] be filled by the [~~commission as chairman~~] commission's membership for only the remainder of the term of such chair's predecessor. Four members appointed by the governor shall be attorneys and counselors at law, admitted to practice in the courts of this state, or members of law faculties of universities or law schools within the state recognized by the board of regents of the state of New York, and at least two of [~~them~~] such members shall be members of law faculties of universities or law schools within the state recognized by the board of regents of the state of New York. The commission shall meet in person or virtually at least on a quarterly basis.

§ 2. Section 71 of the legislative law, as amended by chapter 358 of the laws of 1961, is amended to read as follows:

§ 71. Expenses; employees. Each of the members of the commission appointed by the governor or by members of the legislature shall receive reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duty. The commission may appoint such employees as may be needed, prescribe their duties, and fix their compensation within the amount appropriated for the commission.

§ 3. Section 72 of the legislative law, as added by chapter 597 of the laws of 1934, is amended to read as follows:

§ 72. Purposes of commission. It shall be the duty of the law revision commission:

1. To examine the common law and statutes of the state and current judicial decisions [~~for the purpose of discovering defects and anachronisms in the law~~] and recommending needed reforms.

2. To receive and consider suggested areas of study and proposed changes in the law recommended by judges, justices, public officials, lawyers, the American law institute, the [~~commissioners for the promotion of uniformity of legislation in the United States~~] Uniform Law Commission, [~~any~~] bar [~~association or~~] associations, other learned bodies, or the general public. Suggestions for areas of study made by statute, the governor, members of the legislature, court of appeals judges, or the attorney general shall be given priority review for consideration by the commission.

3. [~~To receive and consider suggestions from judges, justices, public officials, lawyers and the public generally as to defects and anachronisms in the law.~~

~~4.~~] To recommend, from time to time, such changes in the law as it deems necessary to modify or eliminate antiquated [~~and~~] or inequitable rules of law, and to bring the law of this state, civil and criminal, into harmony with modern conditions.

[~~5.~~] 4. To report its proceedings annually to the legislature on or before February first, and, if it deems advisable, to accompany its report with proposed bills to carry out any of its recommendations.

§ 4. The legislative law is amended by adding a new section 73 to read as follows:

§ 73. Funding of the commission. There is hereby established in the joint custody of the comptroller and commissioner of taxation and finance a fund to be designated as the law revision commission fund. The commissioner shall deposit into the law revision commission fund all moneys appropriated to the law revision commission. The moneys so received and deposited in the law revision commission fund shall not be commingled with moneys from the general fund and shall be used solely for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this article.

§ 5. This act shall take effect immediately.