STATE OF NEW YORK

4638

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 10, 2025

Introduced by Sen. WEIK -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Civil Service and Pensions

AN ACT in relation to establishing a temporary commission to reform tier VI status in the New York state and local employees' retirement system; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon the expiration thereof

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

Section 1. Legislative findings. The legislature finds that the enactment of chapter 18 of the laws of 2012 has caused severe employment recruitment and retention shortages throughout the New York state and local public workforce. These shortages have caused massive reductions in the size of the public workforce, significant increases in overtime costs, and unacceptable delays to the citizens of the state.

Further, New York state and local governments also face a coming wave of retirements, with over one-quarter of the current workforce eligible to retire in the next five years. These retirements will further exacerbate worker shortages and overtime costs to unsustainable levels.

It is incumbent on the state to proactively address these near-term workforce management challenges to maintain acceptable levels of government service delivery to all New York state residents.

§ 2. Temporary state commission to reform tier VI status in the New York state and local employees' retirement system. 1. A temporary state commission is hereby created to reform and improve tier VI status in the New York state and local employees' retirement system.

2. The commission shall consist of nine members, to be appointed as follows: five shall be appointed by the governor; one shall be appointed by the temporary president of the senate; one shall be appointed by the minority leader of the senate; one shall be appointed by the speaker of the assembly; and one shall be appointed by the minority leader of the assembly.

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

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3. The commission may employ and at pleasure remove such personnel as it may deem necessary for the performance of its functions and fix their compensation within the amounts made available therefor.

4. The commission may meet within and without the state, shall hold at least three public hearings, and shall have all the powers of a legislative committee pursuant to the legislative law.

5. The members of the commission shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties hereunder.

6. To the maximum extent feasible, the commission shall be entitled to request and receive and shall utilize and be provided with such facilities, resources, and data of any court, department, division, board, bureau, commission, or agency of the state or any political subdivision thereof as it may reasonably request to properly carry out its powers and duties hereunder.

7. No later than one year after the effective date of this act, the commission shall submit a final report to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly containing its findings, conclusions, and recommendations for reforming and improving tier VI status in the New York state and local employees' retirement system.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be deemed repealed 1 year after such date.