

# STATE OF NEW YORK

5351

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

February 20, 2025

Introduced by Sen. COMRIE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Labor

AN ACT to amend the labor law, in relation to establishing the industry targeted unemployment task force; 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. The labor law is amended by adding a new article 18-A to  
2 read as follows:

### ARTICLE 18-A

#### INDUSTRY TARGETED UNEMPLOYMENT TASK FORCE

3 Section 645. Statement of purpose.

4 646. Industry targeted unemployment task force.

5 647. Task force composition.

6 648. Task force duties.

7 649. Reporting.

8 § 645. Statement of purpose. It is the purpose of this article to  
9 ensure:

10 1. During times of large overall unemployment, individuals without  
11 employment are aware of the various job training and job development  
12 programs available to them;

13 2. That various job training and job development programs administered  
14 or funded by the state are promoted in a matter that targets former  
15 employees of industries experiencing higher levels of unemployment  
16 compared to the overall rate; and

17 3. Former employees of industries experiencing high levels of unem-  
18 ployment are enrolled and complete job training and job development  
19 programs, specifically in areas that have a demand in necessary labor.

20 § 646. Industry targeted unemployment task force. The industry target-  
21 ed unemployment task force, referred to in this article as the task  
22 force, is hereby established for the purpose of concentrating unemploy-  
23 ment.

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

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1 ment assistance, job training, and job development assistance during  
2 times of high unemployment to individuals who have previously been  
3 employed by an industry that is experiencing unemployment rates higher  
4 than the statewide average.

5 § 647. Task force composition. 1. The task force shall consist of nine  
6 members; one of whom shall be the commissioner, or such commissioner's  
7 designee, who shall serve as the chairperson of the task force; four  
8 members shall be appointed by the governor, two of whom shall be repre-  
9 sentatives of a labor union and two of whom shall be representatives of  
10 an industry experiencing high levels of unemployment to the extent prac-  
11 ticable; two members shall be appointed by the temporary president of  
12 the senate, one of whom shall be a representative of a labor union and  
13 one of whom shall be a representative of an industry experiencing high  
14 levels of unemployment to the extent practicable; and two members shall  
15 be appointed by the speaker of the assembly, one of whom shall be a  
16 representative of a labor union and one of whom shall be a represen-  
17 tative of an industry experiencing high levels of unemployment to the  
18 extent practicable.

19 2. The members of the task force shall receive no compensation for  
20 their services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses  
21 incurred in the performance of their duties.

22 § 648. Task force duties. The role of the task force includes, but is  
23 not limited to:

24 1. Examining the statewide unemployment rate by industry, and the  
25 overall pool of unemployed persons by their last industry worked in, to  
26 determine what industries have higher unemployment than the statewide  
27 average; and

28 2. Developing an outreach program to be utilized by state agencies for  
29 the unemployed workers of industries that have high levels of unemploy-  
30 ment, including but not limited to, job search resources, job training  
31 opportunities in emerging industries, payment and financial assistance  
32 for those programs, entrepreneurial opportunities, and other items that  
33 would assist unemployed workers in obtaining employment.

34 § 649. Reporting. The task force shall report to the governor, the  
35 speaker of the assembly, the minority leader of the assembly, the tempo-  
36 rary president of the senate and the minority leader of the senate no  
37 less than annually with the first such report due six months after the  
38 effective date of this article, and it shall additionally issue such  
39 reports and recommendations as it deems necessary to carry out its  
40 duties and responsibilities. The findings and recommendations in such  
41 reports shall be used by all state agencies to address any unemployment  
42 and job assistance outreach as applicable. Any such reports shall be  
43 made publicly available on the website of the department.

44 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be  
45 deemed repealed 3 years after such date.