STATE OF NEW YORK

5961

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 4, 2025

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

AN ACT to amend the executive law, the education law and the economic development law, in relation to establishing an international division within the department of state

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

Section 1. Section 92 of the executive law is amended and a new section 111 is added to read as follows:

§ 92. Deputies. The secretary of state shall appoint a deputy, who may perform all the duties of the secretary of state. Any such deputy shall receive an annual salary to be fixed by the secretary of state within the amount appropriated therefor. The secretary of state may also appoint and fix the compensation of such other deputies, assistants and employees as [~~he~~] **such secretary of state** shall deem necessary**, and including a director of the international division, as established by section one hundred eleven of this article,** within the amount appropriated therefor and prescribe their powers and duties.

§ 111. International division. 1. There is established an international division within the department of state. The secretary of state shall provide for the establishment and operation of such division, and shall appoint a director to supervise the operation of such division and its employees.

2. The international division shall solicit, establish and maintain sister state relationships between the state of New York and states in other countries. For each of this state's international sister states, the international division shall act as the conduit between the governor and the chief executive officer of each sister state.

3. The international sister state program shall, in cooperation with the department of economic development for the purposes of implementing article ten of the economic development law, establish an active network

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

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to operate a clearinghouse for information resources between this state and each sister state. The network shall be designed to promote international exchanges of commerce, education and culture.

4. The international division shall assist and work in cooperation with the international program of the state university of New York to establish, facilitate and maintain the exchange of students and faculty of the colleges and universities of the state university with the colleges and universities of sister states.

5. The international division may establish international sister state relationships upon its own initiative or upon request of any individual or entity.

§ 2. Section 355 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 22 to read as follows:

22. The state university trustees shall work in cooperation with the international division of the department of state to establish, facilitate and maintain the exchange of students and faculty of state-operated institutions with colleges and universities of the state's sister states.

§ 3. The economic development law is amended by adding a new section 226 to read as follows:

§ 226. Cooperation with international division. The provisions of this article shall be implemented by the commissioner and the department in consultation and cooperation with the international division of the department of state.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately.