STATE OF NEW YORK

1242--A

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 9, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. SOLAGES, CHANDLER-WATERMAN, SIMON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Children and Families -- reported and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to establish a task force to identify evidence-based and evidence informed solutions to reduce exposure to adverse experience

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

Section 1. A task force on adverse experiences and trauma prevention is hereby established to examine, evaluate, accept public comment and make recommendations concerning the impact of adverse experiences and preventive and trauma-informed policy and practices.

§ 2. The task force shall consist of 10 members to be appointed as follows:

a. One member appointed by the department of health;

b. One member appointed by the office of children and family services;

c. One member appointed by the state education department;

d. One member appointed by the department of criminal justice services;

e. One member appointed by the temporary president of the senate;

f. One member appointed by the speaker of the assembly; and

g. Four members appointed by the governor.

§ 3. The members of the task force shall each have experience in or represent the following areas: juvenile justice, social services, public health, childhood development, minority and ethnic groups, education prekindergarten through grade 12. The governor shall designate the chair of the task force which shall be filled in the manner provided for original appointments.

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

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§ 4. The members of the task force shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties pursuant to this act.

§ 5. The task force shall perform the following duties:

(1) Study the impacts of various types of adverse experiences with the goal of developing a comprehensive understanding of these experiences and their lifelong impacts on individuals. These traumas shall include, but not be limited to:

a. Community violence: violence in neighborhoods, such as shootings, gang violence, and other forms of community trauma.

b. Systemic racism and discrimination: the chronic stress and trauma experienced by individuals and communities due to racism, discrimination, and oppression.

c. Climate-related trauma: natural disasters, such as hurricanes, wildfires, and floods, as well as the anxiety and distress associated with climate change.

d. Technological trauma: cyberbullying, online harassment, and exposure to disturbing virtual content.

e. Intergenerational trauma: trauma that is passed down through generations as the result of war, genocide, or other large-scale traumatic events.

f. Complex trauma: trauma that is repeated, or prolonged.

(2) Engage social services, office of children and family services, education, health, and criminal justice systems in creation of trauma-informed policy and practices in each of these systems to prevent adverse childhood experiences from occurring and support the health and well-being of all families.

(3) Identify social determinants of health and well-being and recommend solutions to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in the state in relation to the occurrence of adverse experiences.

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

§ 7. The task force shall submit, within 2 years of the effective date of this act, a report of its findings, conclusions and recommendations to the governor, temporary president of the senate, speaker of the assembly, minority leader of the senate, minority leader of the assembly, chair of senate education committee, chair of assembly education committee, chair of senate health committee, chair of assembly health committee, chair of senate social services committee, chair of assembly social services committee, chair of senate children and families committee and chair of assembly children and families committee.

§ 8. This act shall take effect immediately.