STATE OF NEW YORK

9068--A

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

September 5, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. RAGA, KASSAY, STECK, REYES, TORRES -- 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 executive law, in relation to requiring the division of human rights to participate in the United Nations for certain purposes

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

Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 294-b to read as follows:

§ 294-b. Participation in the United Nations universal periodic review. 1. The state, through the division, shall participate in the United Nations human rights council's universal periodic review by establishing an interagency task force for the purposes of drafting and publishing a report. The task force shall be led by the division, and shall include representatives designated by the heads of any state agency or other political subdivision of the state the division deems necessary for completion of the review. The division shall also invite participation, on an advisory basis, from local governments, academic institutions, community-based organizations and other stakeholders deemed relevant.

2. The review shall include, but not be limited to:

a. A description of the methodology used and the consultation process undertaken in preparation of the report.

b. A summary of the state's constitutional, statutory, and institutional framework relevant to human rights, including applicable national and state jurisprudence and existing human rights institutions.

c. An evaluation of the implementation of human-rights-related laws and policies, as well as legislative or voluntary commitments and activ-

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

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ities by state and local human rights bodies, including but not limited to, the universal declaration of human rights, human rights treaties of which the United States has ratified, and any commitments which the United States has made to the United Nations human rights council regarding the universal periodic review.

d. Identification of achievements, best practices, challenges, and constraints.

e. Recommendations for key priorities the state should implement to overcome constraints and improve human rights conditions on the ground.

f. Identification of areas where agencies may require additional resources, monetary or otherwise.

3. The report shall be drafted and completed by November thirtieth, two thousand twenty-six in accordance with the one year extension given to the United States to conduct its scheduled universal periodic review.

4. Upon completion, the division shall be required to submit the report to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly, and the United States department of state, and to publish the report on the division's website so that it is publicly accessible. Additionally, the division may submit the report to the United Nations' human rights system strictly for the purposes of receiving technical feedback and improving state human rights practices. Any submission should clearly state that it is submitted solely in the capacity of a subnational stakeholder, does not purport to represent or bind the United States and is intended exclusively to inform and improve state-level human rights governance.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.