



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: Int 1978-2020 **Version:** * **Name:** Establishment of a COVID-19 economic recovery task force.
Type: Introduction **Status:** Filed (End of Session)
In control: Committee on Governmental Operations
On agenda: 6/18/2020
Enactment date: **Enactment #:**
Title: A Local Law in relation to the establishment of a COVID-19 economic recovery task force
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Indexes: Council Appointment Required, Other Appointment Required, Report Required, Sunset Date Applies
Attachments: 1. Summary of Int. No. 1978, 2. Int. No. 1978, 3. June 18, 2020 - Stated Meeting Agenda with Links to Files, 4. Hearing Transcript - Stated Meeting 6-18-20, 5. Minutes of the Stated Meeting - June 18, 2020

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
6/18/2020	*	City Council	Introduced by Council	
6/18/2020	*	City Council	Referred to Comm by Council	
12/31/2021	*	City Council	Filed (End of Session)	

Int. No. 1978

By Council Members Rodriguez, Kallos and Holden

A Local Law in relation to the establishment of a COVID-19 economic recovery task force

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Definitions. For purposes of this local law, the following terms have the following meanings:

City. The term “city” means the city of New York.

COVID-19. The term “COVID-19” means the 2019 novel coronavirus or 2019-nCoV.

Task force. The term “task force” means the COVID-19 economic recovery task force established by this local law.

§ 2. Task force established. There is hereby established a task force to be known as the COVID-19 economic recovery task force.

§ 3. Duties. The task force shall identify and assess the effects of COVID-19 on the city economy, and

make recommendations for legislation and policy for the purpose of facilitating and supporting the safe reopening of businesses and the recovery of the city economy.

§ 4. Membership. a. The task force shall be composed of the following members:

1. Two members appointed by the mayor;
2. Two members appointed by the speaker of the council;
3. One member appointed by each borough president;
4. One member appointed by the comptroller; and
5. One member appointed by the public advocate.

b. The mayor may invite officers and representatives of relevant federal, state and local agencies and authorities to participate in the work of the task force.

c. Each member of the task force shall have demonstrated expertise relevant to the purpose and duties of the task force.

d. All appointments required by this section shall be made no later than 30 days after the effective date of this local law.

e. The mayor shall appoint a chair from among the members of the task force. Each member of the task force shall serve at the pleasure of the officer who appointed the member. In the event of a vacancy on the task force, a successor shall be appointed in the same manner as the original appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term. All members of the task force shall serve without compensation.

§ 5. Meetings. a. The chair shall convene the first meeting of the task force no later than 30 days after the last member has been appointed, except that where not all members of the task force have been appointed within the time specified in section four, the chair shall convene the first meeting of the task force within 10 days of the appointment of a quorum.

b. The task force may invite experts and stakeholders to attend its meetings and to provide testimony and information relevant to its duties.

c. The task force shall meet no less than once monthly to carry out the duties described in this local law.

d. The meeting requirement of subdivision c shall be suspended when the task force submits its final report as required by section six.

§ 6. Reports. a. The task force shall submit an interim report of findings, which at a minimum shall include an initial assessment of the effects on New York city businesses of COVID-19 and related government policies, and any recommendations for legislation or policy to the mayor and the speaker of the council, no later than 6 months after the effective date of this local law.

b. The task force shall submit a final report of findings and any recommendations for legislation or policy to the mayor and the speaker of the council no later than 12 months after the effective date of this local law. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, an assessment of the relief available to New York city businesses and the employees of such businesses, and an assessment of the need for relief among businesses in specific sectors or industries that, as determined by the task force, have been most affected by COVID-19. Such report shall identify opportunities to promote and ensure the fair and equitable distribution of available economic relief among all affected businesses and communities.

c. The task force's reports shall be published electronically on the website of the mayor no later than 10 days after receipt of such reports by the mayor.

§ 7. Agency support. Each agency affected by this local law shall provide appropriate staff and resources to support the work of such agency related to the task force.

§ 8. Termination. The task force shall terminate 1 year after submission of the final report as required by section six of this local law.

§ 9. Effective date. This local law takes effect immediately.

NC
LS #14478, 14691 and 14816
5/29/20