



Legislation Text

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Int. No. 1815

By Council Members Borelli and Carr

A Local Law in relation to the creation of a task force to study and report on the feasibility of an independent city of Staten Island

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Staten Island secession task force. a. There is hereby established a task force that shall study and assess the feasibility of the secession of Staten Island from the city of New York.

b. The task force shall consist of the following members:

1. The Staten Island borough president, or such borough president's designee, who shall serve as chair of the task force;

2. The clerk of Richmond County, or such clerk's designee;

3. The chair of the city planning commission, or such chair's designee;

4. The comptroller, or the comptroller's designee;

5. The chancellor of the city school district, or such chancellor's designee;

6. The commissioner of emergency management, or such commissioner's designee;

7. The Staten Island borough commissioner of transportation, or such borough commissioner's designee;

8. A representative from each of Staten Island's three community boards, appointed by the chair of the task force;

9. One member appointed by the public advocate; and

10. Each city council member representing a district located in Staten Island, or the respective designees

of such members.

c. All members shall be appointed to the task force within 60 days of the effective date of this local law. The task force shall hold its first meeting no later than 30 days after the last member of the task force has been appointed pursuant to subdivision b of this section and shall meet at least quarterly. Members of the task force shall serve without compensation.

d. No member of the task force shall be removed except for cause and upon notice and hearing by the official who appointed that member. In the event of a vacancy, a successor shall be appointed in the same manner as the original appointment.

e. The task force shall create and conduct a survey of Staten Island residents and local businesses. Such survey shall include questions regarding the concerns and opinions on Staten Island secession. The findings of such survey shall be included in the report required pursuant to subdivision g of this section.

f. The task force shall hold at least four public meetings before submitting the report required pursuant to subdivision g of this section to solicit testimony and input from relevant city agencies, academics and experts with relevant professional experience, and members of the general public regarding Staten Island secession.

g. The task force shall submit a report to the mayor and the speaker of the council assessing the feasibility of an independent city of Staten Island, including but not limited to, the financial cost of secession, the legislative and political considerations necessary for secession, the service demands, allocation of resources, and overall cost to both the city of New York and to the borough of Staten Island of creating an independent and self-sustaining city of Staten Island. The report shall include input from all city agencies relevant to the secession analysis. The report shall be submitted to the mayor and the speaker of the city council no later than 18 months after the first meeting of the task force.

h. The task force shall dissolve 90 days after the submission of the report required pursuant to subdivision g of this section.

§ 2. This local law takes effect immediately.

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