



Legislation Text

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Int. No. 1950-A

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A Local Law in relation to the establishment of a task force to recommend policies and protocols relating to the safe reopening and operation of city agencies in response to the COVID-19 pandemic

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

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

Agency. The term “agency” means: (i) any agency as such term is defined in section 1150 of the New York city charter, the head of which is appointed by the mayor; (ii) any agency as such term is defined in section 1150 of the New York city charter headed by a board, commission or other multi-member body, where a majority of such body’s members are appointed by the mayor; and (iii) the office of the mayor.

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 task force established pursuant to section two of this local law.

§ 2. The mayor shall establish a task force to oversee the implementation of this local law and to facilitate the safe reopening of agency offices and resumption of agency functions in response to COVID-19. The mayor shall appoint at least 5 and no more than 10 members of mayoral senior management staff or their designees to serve on such task force.

§ 3. Powers and duties. The task force established by the mayor shall:

a. No later than 30 days after being established, and in consultation with the department of health and mental hygiene and the department of citywide administrative services, recommend policies and protocols regarding the reopening of agency offices and resumption of agency functions to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including, but not limited to, policies and protocols with respect to the following:

1. For offices and any other facilities where persons may be present, the maximum occupancy, based on room size and other relevant criteria;

2. The types of and need for protective furnishings, and methods of use of such furnishings;

3. The types of sanitizing products needed, and methods of distribution, access and application;

4. The types of personal protective equipment needed, and methods of distribution, access and use;

5. The cleaning and sanitizing of surfaces and purification of air, including the frequency of such measures; and

6. Any other relevant matters, including those related to accommodating persons at higher risk for developing serious health complications as a result of a COVID-19 infection.

b. No later than 30 days after being established, and in consultation with the department of health and mental hygiene and the department of citywide administrative services, determine the operations and functions that each agency shall address in each such agency's reopening plan required pursuant to section four of this local law. The task force shall consider the various operations, functions and circumstances of each agency when making such determinations. The task force shall make such determinations consistent with applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations, and relevant advisory guidelines related to the reopening of agency offices and resumption of agency functions, and to conform such plans to policies and protocols recommended pursuant to subdivision a of this section;

c. Provide information to each agency regarding relevant federal, state and local laws, regulations and advisory guidelines related to the reopening of agency offices and resumption of agency functions;

d. Review agency reopening plans and amendments to such plans submitted pursuant to section four of

this local law and propose amendments to such plans to promote compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations related to the reopening of agency offices and resumption of agency functions; conformance to the policies and protocols recommended pursuant to subdivision a of this section; and adequate treatment of the functions and operations identified pursuant to subdivision b of this section;

e. No later than 90 days after the effective date of this local law, and every 90 days thereafter until this local law expires pursuant to section six of this local law, submit to the mayor and speaker of the council a report on agency compliance with section four of this local law; and

f. Routinely update, as necessary and practicable, the policies and protocols recommended pursuant to subdivision a of this section or received from appropriate public health agencies.

§ 4. Agency reopening plans. No later than 30 days after the task force produces the recommendations described in section three of this local law, each agency shall submit to the task force a plan for reopening and resuming functions. Any amendment made by an agency to its plan shall also be submitted to the task force as soon as reasonably practicable after such amendment is made. If any such plan does not conform to the task force's recommendations pursuant to subdivision a of section three of this local law, or address a specific operation or function identified pursuant to subdivision b of section three of this local law, an explanation shall be provided in such plan. Each agency shall publish its reopening plan on its website no later than 1 week after such plan is approved, and shall update and republish the plan within 1 week of making any amendment to such plan, provided that any information that could compromise either the security of such agency or the privacy of any employee of such agency if made public, may be redacted.

§ 5. Online access to recommendations, plans and reports. The task force shall, in conjunction with any agency submitting a reopening plan to the task force, make recommendations and reports generated pursuant to this local law available on the city's website no later than 1 week after making such recommendation or approving such report.

§ 6. Effective date. This local law takes effect immediately and shall expire upon the earlier of: (i) the

date on which the state of emergency declared by the mayor's emergency executive order number 98, published March 12, 2020, as extended, has expired; or (ii) one year following the effective date of this local law.

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