



Legislation Text

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Int. No. 323

By Council Members Brannan, Fariás, Louis, Restler, Sanchez, Dinowitz and Vernikov

A Local Law in relation to the creation of a retail resurgence taskforce

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. a. There is hereby established a retail resurgence task force that shall review and recommend changes to the laws, rules, regulations, and policies to promote the resurgence of the retail sector in the city of New York.

b. Such task force shall comprise seven members:

1. The commissioner of small business services, or the designee thereof;

2. Three members appointed by the mayor, representing the retail, real estate and labor sectors, respectively; and

3. Three members appointed by the speaker of the council, representing the retail, real estate and labor sectors, respectively.

c. The members of the task force shall be appointed within 90 days after the effective date of this local law.

d. Each member of the task force shall serve for a term of one year, to commence after the final member is appointed. Any vacancies in the membership of the task force shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. A person filling such vacancy shall serve for the unexpired portion of the term of the succeeded member.

e. No member of the task force may be removed except for cause and upon notice and hearing by the

official who appointed such member or, in the case of a succeeding member under subdivision d of this section, the official who appointed the succeeding member.

f. Members of the task force shall serve without compensation.

g. The task force shall meet at least monthly.

h. No more than one year after the date that the final member of the task force is appointed under subdivision d of this section, the task force shall submit a report to the mayor and the speaker of the council, which shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:

1. The challenges facing the retail sector, including, but not limited to, challenges related to gentrification, commercial rent, rezoning, and online retail;

2. The needs of the retail sector, including, but not limited to, needs related to technical assistance and legal services;

3. The existing public and private programs available to the retail sector and an analysis of whether such programs meet the needs of the sector;

4. The gaps in available data, including, but not limited to, a comprehensive assessment of storefront vacancies and trends in the commercial rents; and

5. The city policies that could be changed or adopted to promote retail resurgence.

i. No more than 30 days after the report of the task force is submitted to the mayor and the speaker of the council, the report shall be posted on the website of the department of small business services.

j. The task force shall dissolve 180 days after the date that the report is submitted to the mayor and the speaker of the council.

§ 2. This local law takes effect immediately.

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