

ASSEMBLY, No. 4329

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 29, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman WILLIAM F. MOEN, JR.

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblyman ANTHONY S. VERRELLI

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Conaway and Johnson

SYNOPSIS

Establishes task force to study and make recommendations concerning ways to improve unemployment insurance information technology infrastructure.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/8/2020)

1 **AN ACT** establishing a task force to study and make
2 recommendations concerning ways to improve the
3 unemployment insurance information technology infrastructure.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. a. There is established in the Division of Unemployment
9 Insurance in the Department of Labor and Workforce Development
10 a task force to study the effectiveness of and give recommendations
11 concerning ways to improve the division's information technology
12 infrastructure. The purpose of the task force shall be to evaluate
13 whether the office is achieving effectiveness, efficiency, and
14 economy in the employment of available resources and to make
15 recommendations relating to ways to improve the division's
16 information technology infrastructure.

17 b. The task force shall consist of 11 members as follows:

18 (1) The Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development or
19 his designee, who shall serve ex officio;

20 (2) The Chief Technology Officer in the Office of Information
21 Technology as established by section 9 of P.L.2007, c.56
22 (C.52:18A-227) or his designee, who shall serve ex officio; and

23 (3) Nine public members, appointed by the Governor with the
24 advice and consent of the Senate, including: two representatives of
25 labor organizations; three experts of information technology
26 infrastructure operation and management, and four legislative
27 assistants, one for each partisan office of the Legislature.

28 c. Vacancies in the membership of the task force shall be filled
29 in the same manner provided for the original appointments. The
30 public members of the task force shall serve without compensation
31 but may be reimbursed for traveling and other miscellaneous
32 expenses necessary to perform their duties, within the limits of
33 funds made available to the task force for its purpose.

34 d. The task force shall organize as soon as practicable, but not
35 later than the 30th day after the appointment of its members, and
36 shall select a chairperson and vice-chairperson from among the
37 members. The chairperson shall appoint a secretary who need not
38 be a member of the task force.

39 e. The task force may meet at the call of its chair and hold
40 hearings at the times and in the places it may deem appropriate and
41 necessary to fulfill its charge. The task force shall be entitled to
42 call to its assistance, and avail itself of the services of, the
43 employees of any State, county or municipal department, board,
44 bureau, commission, or agency as it may require and as may be
45 available for its purposes.

1 f. The Department of Labor and Workforce Development shall
2 provide professional and clerical staff services to the task force.

3
4 2. The task force shall identify issues, including but not limited
5 to, key technological and information technology failures that were
6 brought to light by the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic with the
7 goal of developing recommendations as to how to address, repair,
8 update, and modernize the division's overall technological
9 infrastructure.

10
11 3. The task force shall report to the Governor, and to the
12 Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1),
13 no later than 12 months after the initial meeting of the task force, its
14 findings and recommendations, including any recommendations for
15 legislative action that may be undertaken in the future.

16
17 4. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire upon
18 the issuance of the task force report pursuant to section 3 of this act.

19
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21 STATEMENT

22
23 This bill establishes a task force in the Division of
24 Unemployment Insurance in the Department of Labor and
25 Workforce Development to study the effectiveness of and give
26 recommendations concerning ways to improve the division's
27 information technology infrastructure. The purpose of the task
28 force shall be to evaluate whether the office is achieving
29 effectiveness, efficiency, and economy in the employment of
30 available resources and to make recommendations relating to ways
31 to improve the division's information technology infrastructure.

32 Under the bill, the task force would consist of 11 members as
33 follows:

34 (1) The Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development or
35 his designee, who shall serve ex officio;

36 (2) The Chief Technology Officer in the Office of Information
37 Technology, or his designee, who shall serve ex officio; and

38 (3) Nine public members, appointed by the Governor with the
39 advice and consent of the Senate, including: two representatives of
40 labor organizations; three experts of information technology
41 infrastructure operation and management, and four legislative
42 assistants, one for each of the partisan office of the Legislature.

43 Under the bill, the task force must identify, including but not
44 limited to, key technological and information technology failures
45 that were brought to light by the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic
46 with the goal of developing recommendations as to how to address,
47 repair, update, and modernize the division's overall technological
48 infrastructure.

1 The bill requires the task force to issue a report to the Governor
2 and to the Legislature which is to include its findings and
3 recommendations, including any recommendations for legislative
4 action that may be undertaken in the future.