

1538--B

Cal. No. 48

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

February 2, 2009

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Introduced by Sens. STAVISKY, ADAMS, DIAZ, DUANE, HUNTLEY, KRUEGER, MONSERRATE, ONORATO, PARKER, SAMPSON -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Crime Victims, Crime and Correction -- reported favorably from said committee, ordered to first and second report, ordered to a third reading, amended and ordered reprinted, retaining its place in the order of third reading -- again amended and ordered reprinted, retaining its place in the order of third reading

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to providing information on victim and witness assistance programs to crime victims

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. Subdivisions 1 and 1-a of section 625-a of the executive  
2     law, subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 173 of the laws of 2006, subdi-  
3     vision 1-a as added by chapter 416 of the laws of 1979, are amended to  
4     read as follows:  
5     1. Every police station, precinct house, GENERAL HOSPITAL ESTABLISHED  
6     UNDER THE LAWS OF THIS STATE WHICH MAINTAINS FACILITIES FOR PROVIDING  
7     OUT-PATIENT EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTERS, HOMELESS  
8     SHELTERS, any appropriate location where a crime may, OR MUST UNDER THE  
9     BOARD'S RULES AND REGULATIONS, be reported and any location required by  
10    the rules and regulations of the board shall have available informative  
11    booklets, pamphlets and other pertinent written information, including  
12    information cards, to be supplied by the board, relating to the avail-  
13    ability of crime victims compensation including all necessary applica-  
14    tion blanks required to be filed with the board and shall display promi-  
15    nently posters giving notification of the existence and general  
16    provisions of this article, those provisions of the penal law that  
17    prohibit the intimidation of crime victims and the location of the near-  
18    est crime victim service program. The board may issue guidelines for the  
19    location of such display and shall provide posters, application forms,

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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1 information cards and general information. Every victim who reports a  
2 crime in any manner whatsoever, AND WHO PROVIDES THEIR NAME AND ADDRESS,  
3 shall be given notice about the rights of crime victims and the exist-  
4 ence of all relevant local victim's assistance programs and services  
5 WHICH ARE FUNDED BY THE CRIME VICTIMS BOARD, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED  
6 TO, RAPE CRISIS CENTERS, ELDERLY VICTIM PROJECTS, VICTIM ASSISTANCE  
7 HOTLINES AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTERS AND PROGRAMS pursuant to section  
8 six hundred twenty-five-b of this article, and supplied by the person  
9 receiving the report with information, application blanks, and informa-  
10 tion cards which shall clearly state: (a) that crime victims may be  
11 eligible for state compensation benefits; (b) the address and phone  
12 number of the nearest board office; (c) that police and district attor-  
13 neys can help protect victims against harassment and intimidation; (d)  
14 the addresses and phone numbers of local victim service programs FUNDED  
15 BY THE BOARD, where appropriate, or space for inserting that information  
16 AND A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY SUCH PROGRAM; or (e)  
17 any other information the board deems appropriate. Such cards shall be  
18 designed by the board in consultation with local police, and shall be  
19 printed and distributed by the board. The crime victims board shall  
20 develop a system for distributing a sufficient supply of the information  
21 cards referred to in this subdivision, to all the appropriate designated  
22 locations, which shall include a schedule for meeting that requirement.

23 [1-a. Every general hospital established under the laws of this state,  
24 which maintains facilities for providing out-patient emergency medical  
25 care, shall display prominently in its emergency room posters giving  
26 notification of the existence and general provisions of this chapter.  
27 The board may issue guidelines for the location of such display and  
28 shall provide posters, application forms and general information regard-  
29 ing the provision of this chapter to each such hospital.]

30 S 2. Subdivision 1 of section 625-b of the executive law, as added by  
31 chapter 173 of the laws of 2006, is amended to read as follows:

32 1. The commissioner of the division of criminal justice services in  
33 cooperation with the crime victims board shall develop and implement a  
34 standardized procedure to be used by police officers, county sheriffs'  
35 departments [and], state police officers, GENERAL HOSPITALS ESTABLISHED  
36 UNDER THE LAWS OF THIS STATE WHICH MAINTAIN FACILITIES FOR PROVIDING  
37 OUT-PATIENT EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTERS AND HOME-  
38 LESS SHELTERS whereby victims of crime are notified about the rights of  
39 crime victims and the existence of programs FUNDED BY THE BOARD designed  
40 to assist crime victims.

41 S 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after  
42 it shall have become a law.