

5574

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

June 3, 2011

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Introduced by Sen. RIVERA -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Cities

AN ACT to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to enactment of the "safe streets security camera registry act"

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

1     Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as  
2     the "safe streets security camera registry act".  
3     S 2. Legislative intent. Currently, the police department of the city  
4     of New York collects information on the location of privately-owned  
5     security cameras manually, by means of periodic surveys conducted by  
6     patrol officers. Such surveys do not capture the locations of newly-in-  
7     stalled privately-owned security cameras in a timely and complete manner  
8     due to their periodic nature and reliance on personal observations by  
9     officers. It is the intent of the legislature that the police department  
10    create an online security camera registry and database for all private-  
11    ly-owned and operated security cameras within the city of New York with  
12    fields of observation that look upon and capture video of public spaces,  
13    such as sidewalks, as well as lobbies, courtyards and vestibules of  
14    apartment buildings. Creating the security camera registry will  
15    strengthen the department's ability to pursue perpetrators of crimes by  
16    enhancing its ability to collect video evidence in a timely manner,  
17    thereby shortening the time needed to bring criminal investigations to a  
18    successful conclusion. The registry will only alert the department to  
19    the existence of privately-owned security cameras that observe persons  
20    in public places. Nothing in this legislation will impinge upon the  
21    civil liberties of the people of the city of New York.  
22    S 3. The administrative code of the city of New York is amended by  
23    adding a new section 14-154 to read as follows:

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

LBD11696-02-1

1 S 14-154 SECURITY CAMERA REGISTRY. A. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CREATE AND  
2 MAINTAIN AN ONLINE REGISTRY AND DATABASE OF ALL PRIVATELY-OWNED AND  
3 OPERATED SECURITY CAMERAS WITHIN THE CITY OF NEW YORK WITH FIELDS OF  
4 OBSERVATION THAT LOOK UPON AND CAPTURE VIDEO OF PUBLIC SPACES, SUCH AS  
5 SIDEWALKS, AS WELL AS LOBBIES, COURTYARDS AND VESTIBULES OF APARTMENT  
6 BUILDINGS.

7 B. ANY INDIVIDUAL, COMPANY OR ENTITY WHICH INSTALLS A NEW SECURITY  
8 CAMERA AFTER THE ENACTMENT OF THIS SECTION SHALL, WITHIN THIRTY DAYS  
9 AFTER INSTALLATION OF SUCH CAMERA, REGISTER THE LOCATION OF THE CAMERA  
10 AND THE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE OWNER OF THE CAMERA AND INCLUDE A  
11 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE VIEW THE CAMERA CAPTURES WITH THE REGISTRY AND  
12 DATABASE CREATED AND MAINTAINED BY THE DEPARTMENT. THE OWNER OF THE  
13 CAMERA SHALL REGISTER SUCH INFORMATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT THROUGH THE  
14 DEPARTMENT'S ONLINE REGISTRY.

15 C. THE OWNER OF A SECURITY CAMERA WHICH HAS BEEN INSTALLED PRIOR TO  
16 THE ENACTMENT OF THIS SECTION SHALL HAVE NINETY DAYS AFTER THE ENACTMENT  
17 OF THIS SECTION TO REGISTER THE LOCATION OF THE CAMERA AND THE CONTACT  
18 INFORMATION FOR THE OWNER OF THE CAMERA WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S REGISTRY  
19 AND INCLUDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE VIEW THE CAMERA CAPTURES AS SET  
20 FORTH IN SUBDIVISION B OF THIS SECTION.

21 D. IN THE EVENT THAT A CRIME OCCURS WITHIN THE VICINITY OF A SECURITY  
22 CAMERA REGISTERED WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S DATABASE, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
23 OBTAIN THE CONSENT OF THE CAMERA OWNER TO VIEW ANY FOOTAGE RECORDED OR  
24 OTHERWISE OBTAIN A SUBPOENA FOR PRODUCTION OF SUCH VIDEO.

25 S 4. This act shall take effect immediately.