S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

656

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

(PREFILED)

January 5, 2011

Introduced by Sen. VALESKY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to fishing events as rehabilitation for members of the United States armed forces

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

Section 1. Subdivision 16 of section 11-0305 of the environmental conservation law, as added by chapter 292 of the laws of 1996 and as renumbered by section 2 of part F of chapter 82 of the laws of 2002, is amended to read as follows:

16. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of law, to authorize no more than four free sport fishing clinics in each year for each separate administrative region of the department, provided however that nothing in this subdivision shall preclude the department from conducting additional free sport fishing clinics during free sport fishing days designated by the commissioner pursuant to subdivision [fifteen] FOURTEEN of this section. A free sport fishing clinic shall include, but not be limited to, instruction provided by employees of the department in recreational angling, including its benefits and values, and may also include instruction and other information relevant to an understanding of fisheries management, ethics and aquatic ecology and habitat. No license is required to take fish by angling while participating in a fishing clinic conducted by the department that has been designated by the commissioner as a free sport fishing clinic. Such clinics shall be implemented in a manner determined by the department to best provide public notice thereof and to maximize public participation therein, so as to promote the recreational opportunities afforded by sport fishing. FURTHER, THE COMMISSIONER MAY DESIGNATE ADDITIONAL FISHING EVENTS ORGANIZED THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT THAT PROVIDE PHYSICAL OR EMOTIONAL REHABILI-

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

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TATION FOR VETERANS OR ACTIVE DUTY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES. NO LICENSE SHALL BE REQUIRED FOR SUCH VETERANS OR ACTIVE DUTY MEMBERS TO TAKE FISH BY ANGLING WHILE PARTICIPATING IN THESE EVENTS.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.