

8441

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

October 9, 2015

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Introduced by M. of A. GJONAJ -- read once and referred to the Committee  
on Economic Development

AN ACT to amend the general business law, the tax law and the alcoholic  
beverage control law, in relation to prohibiting the sale of synthetic  
cannabinoids

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

1     Section 1. The general business law is amended by adding a new section  
2     399-hh to read as follows:  
3     S 399-HH. SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF SYNTHETIC CANNABINOID; PROHIBITED.  
4     1. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "SYNTHETIC CANNABINOID" MEANS ANY  
5     CHEMICAL COMPOUND THAT IS A CANNABINOID RECEPTOR AGONIST AND SHALL  
6     INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, ANY MATERIAL, COMPOUND, MIXTURE OR PREP-  
7     ARATION THAT IS NOT DESIGNATED AS A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PURSUANT TO  
8     SECTION THIRTY-THREE HUNDRED SIX OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH LAW.  
9     2. NO PERSON, FIRM, CORPORATION, PARTNERSHIP, ASSOCIATION, LIMITED  
10    LIABILITY COMPANY OR OTHER ENTITY SHALL SELL, OFFER FOR SALE, DISTRIBUTE  
11    OR GIVE AWAY, FOR RETAIL, WHOLESALE OR PROMOTIONAL PURPOSES ANY SYNTHET-  
12    IC CANNABINIOD.  
13    3. ANY PERSON, FIRM, CORPORATION, PARTNERSHIP, ASSOCIATION, LIMITED  
14    LIABILITY COMPANY OR OTHER ENTITY THAT IS FOUND BY A LOCAL CRIMINAL  
15    COURT, AS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION THREE OF SECTION 10.10 OF THE CRIMINAL  
16    PROCEDURE LAW, TO HAVE VIOLATED THE PROVISIONS OF SUBDIVISION TWO OF  
17    THIS SECTION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY OF TWO THOUSAND  
18    DOLLARS; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT UPON A FINDING OF A SECOND OR SUBSE-  
19    QUENT VIOLATION WITHIN ANY PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS, THE VIOLATOR SHALL BE  
20    SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY OF FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS; AND PROVIDED,  
21    FURTHER, THAT UPON A FINDING OF A THIRD OR SUBSEQUENT VIOLATION WITHIN  
22    ANY PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS, THE COURT SHALL PROVIDE NOTICE THEREOF TO THE  
23    COMMISSIONER OF TAXATION AND FINANCE, THE DIVISION OF THE LOTTERY AND  
24    THE STATE LIQUOR AUTHORITY, AND THE VIOLATOR SHALL BE PROHIBITED FROM

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

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1 SELLING CIGARETTES AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS, LOTTERY TICKETS, AND ALCOHOLIC  
2 BEVERAGES FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS.

3 S 2. Paragraphs (e) and (f) of subdivision 2 of section 480 of the tax  
4 law, as amended by chapter 744 of the laws of 1990, are amended and a  
5 new paragraph (g) is added to read as follows:

6 (e) Any controlling person of such applicant has committed any of the  
7 acts specified in subdivision three of this section within the preceding  
8 five years, [or]

9 (f) Such applicant or any controlling person has been finally deter-  
10 mined to have violated any of the provisions of this article or article  
11 twenty-A of this chapter, or any rule or regulation adopted pursuant to  
12 this article or article twenty-A of this chapter[.], OR

13 (G) SUCH APPLICANT OR ANY CONTROLLING PERSON HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO  
14 HAVE VIOLATED SUBDIVISION TWO OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED NINETY-NINE-HH OF  
15 THE GENERAL BUSINESS LAW, THREE OR MORE TIMES DURING A PERIOD OF FIVE  
16 YEARS, IN SUCH CASE THE VIOLATOR SHALL BE DENIED A LICENSE FOR A PERIOD  
17 OF FIVE YEARS AFTER THE LAST SUCH VIOLATION.

18 S 3. Subparagraphs (iii) and (iv) of paragraph (b) of subdivision 3 of  
19 section 480 of the tax law, subparagraph (iii) as amended by chapter 860  
20 of the laws of 1987 and subparagraph (iv) as amended by chapter 61 of  
21 the laws of 1989, are amended and a new subparagraph (v) is added to  
22 read as follows:

23 (iii) Has impersonated any person represented to be a wholesale dealer  
24 under this article but not in fact licensed under this section, [or]

25 (iv) Has knowingly aided and abetted the sale of cigarettes or tobacco  
26 products by a person which such licensee or controlling person knows (A)  
27 has not been licensed by the commissioner of taxation and finance and  
28 (B) is a wholesale dealer pursuant to the terms of subdivision eight of  
29 section four hundred seventy of this chapter[.], OR

30 (V) HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO HAVE VIOLATED SUBDIVISION TWO OF SECTION  
31 THREE HUNDRED NINETY-NINE-HH OF THE GENERAL BUSINESS LAW, THREE OR MORE  
32 TIMES DURING A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS, IN SUCH CASE THE VIOLATOR'S LICENSE  
33 SHALL BE CANCELLED OR SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS.

34 S 4. Subdivision a of section 1605 of the tax law, as amended by chap-  
35 ter 217 of the laws of 2011, is amended to read as follows:

36 a. The division may license as agents to sell lottery tickets such  
37 persons as in its opinion will best serve public convenience, except  
38 that no license shall be issued to any person to engage in business  
39 exclusively as a lottery sales agent; AND PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT NO  
40 LICENSE SHALL BE ISSUED TO ANY PERSON WHO HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO HAVE  
41 VIOLATED SUBDIVISION TWO OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED NINETY-NINE-HH OF THE  
42 GENERAL BUSINESS LAW, THREE OR MORE TIMES DURING A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS,  
43 IN SUCH CASE THE VIOLATOR SHALL BE DENIED A LICENSE FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE  
44 YEARS AFTER THE LAST SUCH VIOLATION. The division may license such  
45 persons as in its opinion are suitable to participate in video lottery  
46 gaming pursuant to section sixteen hundred seventeen-a of this article.

47 S 5. Section 1607 of the tax law is amended by adding a new subdivi-  
48 sion i to read as follows:

49 I. THREE OR MORE VIOLATIONS OF SUBDIVISION TWO OF SECTION THREE  
50 HUNDRED NINETY-NINE-HH OF THE GENERAL BUSINESS LAW, WITHIN ANY PERIOD OF  
51 FIVE YEARS, IN WHICH CASE, THE DIVISION SHALL SUSPEND THE VIOLATOR'S  
52 LICENSE FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS.

53 S 6. Section 105 of the alcoholic beverage control law is amended by  
54 adding a new subdivision 4 to read as follows:

55 4. NO PERSON SHALL RECEIVE A LICENSE TO ENGAGE IN THE RETAIL SALE OF  
56 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION, WHO HAS BEEN DETER-

1 MINED TO HAVE VIOLATED SUBDIVISION TWO OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED NINETY-  
2 NINE-HH OF THE GENERAL BUSINESS LAW, THREE OR MORE TIMES DURING A PERIOD  
3 OF FIVE YEARS, IN SUCH CASE THE VIOLATOR SHALL BE DENIED A LICENSE FOR A  
4 PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS AFTER THE LAST SUCH VIOLATION.

5 S 7. Section 106 of the alcoholic beverage control law is amended by  
6 adding a new subdivision 4-b to read as follows:

7 4-B. NO PERSON SHALL RECEIVE A LICENSE TO ENGAGE IN THE RETAIL SALE OF  
8 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR ON PREMISES CONSUMPTION, WHO HAS BEEN DETERMINED  
9 TO HAVE VIOLATED SUBDIVISION TWO OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED NINETY-NINE-HH  
10 OF THE GENERAL BUSINESS LAW, THREE OR MORE TIMES DURING A PERIOD OF FIVE  
11 YEARS, IN SUCH CASE THE VIOLATOR SHALL BE DENIED A LICENSE FOR A PERIOD  
12 OF FIVE YEARS AFTER THE LAST SUCH VIOLATION.

13 S 8. Section 118 of the alcoholic beverage control law is amended by  
14 adding a new subdivision 1-a to read as follows:

15 1-A. A LICENSE OR PERMIT ISSUED PURSUANT TO THIS CHAPTER SHALL BE  
16 SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS WHEN THE HOLDER THEREOF HAS BEEN  
17 DETERMINED TO HAVE VIOLATED SUBDIVISION TWO OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED  
18 NINETY-NINE-HH OF THE GENERAL BUSINESS LAW, THREE OR MORE TIMES DURING A  
19 PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS.

20 S 9. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeed-  
21 ing the date on which it shall have become a law.