# STATE OF NEW YORK

5027

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

# IN ASSEMBLY

February 11, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. JACOBSON, MAGNARELLI, EACHUS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to requiring the department of health to develop rules for all courts in New York state to protect the court employees and the public from COVID-19

**The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:**

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 201 of the public health law is amended by adding a new paragraph (z) to read as follows:

**(z) develop rules, standards and guidelines for measures to be implemented at every court in the state to protect the court employees and the public from the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) including, but not limited to: (i) protective barriers to be installed at the judge's bench, the witness stand, the jury box and such other locations as the department shall deem necessary; (ii) standards for social distancing and the wearing of face coverings by court employees and by members of the public participating in or watching court proceedings; (iii) testing of all court employees after it is discovered that a court employee or member of the public at the court facility has tested positive for COVID-19; (iv) quarantine of any court employee who has tested positive and the requirement that said infected employee produce a negative test result before being allowed to return to work; and (v) such other measures as the department may deem necessary or desirable.**

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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