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

2247

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

January 15, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. SCHROEDER, MILLMAN, COLTON, LATIMER, LUPARDO -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. CLARK, LAVINE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Labor

AN ACT in relation to authorizing and directing the department of labor to study workplace abuse and harassment

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

Section 1. Legislative findings. The legislature finds that the social and economic well-being of the state is dependent upon healthy and productive employees. Research on hostile workplace behaviors indicates that a significant percent of employees will experience health-endangering workplace abuse and harassment at some point in their working careers. In addition to harming the target of such abuse, this behavior also has consequences for employers, including reduced employee productivity and morale, higher turnover and absenteeism rates, and significant increases in medical and workers' compensation claims.

S 2. The department of labor is hereby authorized and directed to study hostile workplace behavior, including psychological and emotional abuse, and its consequences, including but not limited to costs incurred by the workers' compensation system, and shall develop recommendations to reduce workplace abuse and harassment; and report its findings to the legislature and the governor within one year of the effective date of this act.

S 3. 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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