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

4858

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 6, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. ALESSI -- read once and referred to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the navigation law, in relation to obedience to law enforcement vessels

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

Section 1. The navigation law is amended by adding a new section 201-a to read as follows:

S 201-A. OBEDIENCE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT VESSELS DISPLAYING A FLASHING, REVOLVING, OR OSCILLATING BLUE LIGHT. 1. ANY PERSON OPERATING A VESSEL WHO IS APPROACHING, OVERTAKING, BEING APPROACHED, OR BEING OVERTAKEN BY A LAW ENFORCEMENT VESSEL USING AUDIBLE SIGNAL DEVICE OR FLASHING BLUE LIGHT, OR ANY VESSEL APPROACHING A STATIONARY LAW ENFORCEMENT VESSEL DISPLAYING FLASHING BLUE LIGHTS: (A) SHALL IMMEDIATELY SLOW TO A SPEED SUFFICIENT TO MAINTAIN STEERAGE ONLY; (B) SHALL ALTER ITS COURSE WITHIN ITS ABILITY, SO AS NOT TO INHIBIT OR INTERFERE WITH THE OPERATION OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT VESSEL; AND (C) SHALL PROCEED UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY AN OFFICER IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT VESSEL, AT A REDUCED SPEED UNTIL THE PERSON IS BEYOND THE LAW ENFORCEMENT VESSEL.

2. ANY PERSON WHO WILLFULLY OR NEGLIGENTLY INHIBITS OR INTERFERES WITH ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT VESSEL WHILE ON THE WAY TO AN EMERGENCY CALL OR IN THE PURSUIT OF FLEEING VIOLATORS, SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS, OR IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN SEVEN DAYS OR BOTH.

S 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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