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

7048

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

March 19, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. BALL, KOLB, CROUCH -- read once and referred to the Committee on Codes

AN ACT to amend the penal law, in relation to cyberbullying on a computer network

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

Section 1. The penal law is amended by adding a new section 120.19 to read as follows:

S 120.19 CYBERBULLYING ON A COMPUTER NETWORK.

A PERSON IS GUILTY OF CYBERBULLYING ON A COMPUTER NETWORK WHEN HE OR SHE ENGAGES IN A COURSE OF CONDUCT OR REPEATEDLY COMMITS ACTS OF ABUSIVE BEHAVIOR BY COMMUNICATING OR CAUSING A COMMUNICATION TO BE INITIATED BY MECHANICAL OR ELECTRONIC MEANS OR OTHERWISE, WITH ANOTHER PERSON ANONYMOUSLY OR OTHERWISE BY A COMPUTER NETWORK, AS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION SIX OF SECTION 156.00 OF THIS PART, OVER A PERIOD OF TIME COMMITS SUCH ACTS AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, TAUNTING, INSULTING, HUMILIATING, SENDING HATE MAIL OR EMBARRASSING PHOTOGRAPHS.

CYBERBULLYING ON A COMPUTER NETWORK IS A CLASS E FELONY.

S 2. This act shall take effect on the first of November next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.

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

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