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

S. 6769 A. 9850

S E N A T E - A S S E M B L Y

February 3, 2010

IN SENATE -- Introduced by Sen. BRESLIN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Judiciary

IN ASSEMBLY -- Introduced by M. of A. CUSICK -- read once and referred to the Committee on Judiciary

AN ACT to amend the lien law, in relation to lien filings for retainage

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

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 10 of the lien law, as amended by chapter 288 of the laws of 2000, is amended to read as follows:

1. Notice of lien may be filed at any time during the progress of the work and the furnishing of the materials, or, within eight months after the completion of the contract, or the final performance of the work, or the final furnishing of the materials, dating from the last item of work performed or materials furnished; provided, however, that where the improvement is related to real property improved or to be improved with a single family dwelling, the notice of lien may be filed at any time during the progress of the work and the furnishing of the materials, or, within four months after the completion of the contract, or the final performance of the work, or the final furnishing of the materials, dating from the last item of work performed or materials furnished; AND PROVIDED FURTHER WHERE THE NOTICE OF LIEN IS FOR RETAINAGE, THE NOTICE OF LIEN MAY BE FILED WITHIN NINETY DAYS AFTER THE DATE THE RETAINAGE WAS DUE TO BE RELEASED; except that in the case of a lien by a real estate broker, the notice of lien may be filed only after the performance of the brokerage services and execution of lease by both lessor and lessee and only if a copy of the alleged written agreement of employment or compensation is annexed to the notice of lien, provided that where the payment pursuant to the written agreement of employment or compensation is to be made in installments, then a notice of lien may be filed within eight months after the final payment is due, but in no event later than a date five years after the first payment was made. For purposes of this section, the term "single family dwelling" shall not include a dwelling unit which is a part of a subdivision that has been filed with a munici-

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

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pality in which the subdivision is located when at the time the lien is filed, such property in the subdivision is owned by the developer for purposes other than his personal residence. For purposes of this section, "developer" shall mean and include any private individual, partnership, trust or corporation which improves two or more parcels of real property with single family dwellings pursuant to a common scheme or plan. The notice of lien must be filed in the clerk's office of the county where the property is situated. If such property is situated in two or more counties, the notice of lien shall be filed in the office of the clerk of each of such counties. The county clerk of each county shall provide and keep a book to be called the "lien docket," which shall be suitably ruled in columns headed "owners," "lienors," "lienor's attorney," "property," "amount," "time of filing," "proceedings had," in each of which he shall enter the particulars of the notice, properly belonging therein. The date, hour and minute of the filing of each notice of lien shall be entered in the proper column. Except where the county clerk maintains a block index, the names of the owners shall be arranged in such book in alphabetical order. The validity of the lien and the right to file a notice thereof shall not be affected by the death of the owner before notice of the lien is filed.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.