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

5793

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 20, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. HAYES -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the legislative law, in relation to requiring public hearings on the budget to make accommodations for the hearing impaired

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

Section 1. Section 32-a of the legislative law, as added by chapter 762 of the laws of 1992, is amended to read as follows:

S 32-a. Budget; public hearings. After submission and prior to enactment of the executive budget, the senate finance committee and the assembly ways and means committee jointly or separately shall conduct public hearings on the budget. Such hearings may be conducted regionally to provide individuals and organizations throughout the state with an opportunity to comment on the budget. The committees shall make every effort to hear all those who wish to present statements at such public hearings. The chairs of the committees jointly or separately shall publish a schedule of hearings. *THE COMMITTEES SHALL ENSURE THAT THE SERVICES OF A QUALIFIED INTERPRETER OR AN ASSISTIVE LISTENING SYSTEM IS AVAILABLE AT SUCH HEARINGS AT NO CHARGE TO ANY PERSON WHO IS HEARING IMPAIRED. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE TERM "ASSISTIVE LISTENING SYSTEM" SHALL MEAN SITUATIONAL-PERSONAL ACOUSTIC COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THE TRANSMISSION AND AUDITORY RECEPTION OF SOUND. SUCH SYSTEM SHALL INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO THE USE OF STANDARD AMPLITUDE MODULATION (AM), FREQUENCY MODULATION (FM), AUDIO INDUCTION LOOP, INFRARED LIGHT SOUND, OR HARD WIRE SYSTEMS.*

S 2. This act shall take effect on the first of January 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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