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

1743

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

February 5, 2009

Introduced by Sen. STAVISKY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs

AN ACT in relation to enacting the "non-profit homeland security preparedness study"; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

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

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "non-profit homeland security preparedness study".

S 2. Legislative findings and declaration. The legislature hereby finds and declares that New York state is home to thousands of not-for-profit cultural, religious and educational institutions which serve the needs of millions of New Yorkers. A number of these not-for-profit institutions must expend resources to enhance their security to protect against terrorist threat.

The resources to make these vital improvements exhaust institutional budgets forcing institutions to choose between providing services or making security improvements.

The legislature finds that the existing federal program to assist not-for-profit organizations has not met the needs of the organizations as its budgetary funding, and the existence of the federal program itself varies from year to year. The federal program was not funded in 2006, and in 2007 New York state institutions received only $3.3 million statewide. Less than half of the 109 New York not-for-profit institutions that applied for funding received support. As the federal program has not been as reliable as necessary, New York state must examine its resources to supplement the federal program appropriations.

This legislation commissions the office of homeland security to study and recommend available state resources that could be used to create a state not-for-profit homeland security grant program.

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

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S 3. 1. The office of homeland security shall study, evaluate and make recommendations in writing to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly regarding the universe of state resources available to assist not-for-profit institutions in hardening their facilities through a state not-for-profit grant program, create criteria of eligibility of such program, and create criteria to conduct risk or vulnerability assessment on not-for-profit organizations throughout the state.

2. The office of homeland security shall secure public comment about resources to assist not-for-profit institutions in providing security for its facilities and include such comment in its written report.

3. The office of homeland security shall submit its findings and recommendations in writing on or before December 31, 2009.

S 4. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be deemed repealed December 31, 2009.