

4596

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

April 24, 2009

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Introduced by Sen. MONSERRATE -- read twice and ordered printed, and  
when printed to be committed to the Committee on Consumer Protection

AN ACT to amend the general business law, in relation to labelling  
bottled water sold or offered for sale

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

1     Section 1. The general business law is amended by adding a new article  
2     22-C to read as follows:

3                             ARTICLE 22-C  
4                             LABELLING BOTTLED WATER  
5                             SOLD OR OFFERED FOR SALE

6     SECTION 350-J. DEFINITIONS.

7             350-K. BOTTLED WATER SOLD IN STATE TO BE LABELED.

8             350-L. BOTTLED WATER REPORT.

9             350-M. RULES AND REGULATIONS.

10            350-N. ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL.

11     S 350-J. DEFINITIONS. WHEN USED IN THE ARTICLE, THE FOLLOWING TERMS  
12     SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING MEANING ASCRIBED TO THEM:

13         1. "DEPARTMENT" SHALL MEAN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

14         2. "COMMISSIONER" SHALL MEAN THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH.

15         3. "MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL" SHALL MEAN THE MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE  
16     LEVEL OF PHYSICAL, CHEMICAL, RADIOLOGICAL OR MICROBIOLOGICAL SUBSTANCE  
17     IN WATER.

18     S 350-K. BOTTLED WATER SOLD IN STATE TO BE LABELED. 1. IN ADDITION TO  
19     ANY REQUIREMENTS IMPOSED UNDER SECTION TWO HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE OF THE  
20     PUBLIC HEALTH LAW AND ANY REGULATIONS PROMULGATED PURSUANT TO SUCH  
21     SECTION, ON OR AFTER JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND ELEVEN, NO PERSON SHALL  
22     SELL AT RETAIL OR WHOLESALE, OFFER FOR SALE AT RETAIL OR WHOLESALE OR  
23     DELIVER BOTTLED WATER FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION, FOOD PREPARATION OR CULI-  
24     NARY PURPOSES IN THIS STATE IN A BEVERAGE CONTAINER UNLESS SUCH CONTAIN-  
25     ER INCLUDES ON ITS LABEL, OR ON AN ADDITIONAL LABEL AFFIXED TO THE

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

LBD06903-01-9

1 BOTTLE, OR ON A PACKAGE INSERT OR ATTACHMENT, ALL THE FOLLOWING IN LEGI-  
2 BLE TYPE:

3 A. THE NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE BOTTLER OR BRAND OWNER;

4 B. THE SOURCE OF THE BOTTLED WATER, IN COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE  
5 STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS; AND

6 C. A CLEAR AND CONSPICUOUS STATEMENT THAT INFORMS CONSUMERS ABOUT HOW  
7 TO ACCESS WATER QUALITY INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE BOTTLED WATER  
8 REPORT REQUIRED BY SECTION THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-L OF THIS ARTICLE.

9 2. THE STATEMENT REQUIRED BY PARAGRAPH C OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS  
10 SECTION SHALL INFORM CUSTOMERS ABOUT METHODS OF GAINING ACCESS TO THE  
11 FULL BOTTLED WATER REPORT AND INCLUDE A TELEPHONE NUMBER, WHERE INFORMA-  
12 TION CAN BE REQUESTED FROM THE BOTTLED WATER COMPANY AND ONE OTHER MEANS  
13 OF CONTACT FOR THE BOTTLED WATER COMPANY, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO,  
14 A MAILING ADDRESS, ELECTRONIC MAIL ADDRESS, OR THE BOTTLED WATER COMPA-  
15 NY'S INTERNET WEB SITE. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT MAY BE USED TO FULFILL  
16 THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PARAGRAPH:

17 "FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL CONSUMER INFORMATION  
18 RELATING TO WATER QUALITY, INCLUDING A BOTTLED WATER REPORT, CONTACT  
19 (NAME OF BOTTLED WATER COMPANY) AT (TELEPHONE NUMBER OR TOLL-FREE TELE-  
20 PHONE NUMBER) AND (AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: MAILING ADDRESS,  
21 E-MAIL ADDRESS, OR THE BOTTLED WATER COMPANY'S INTERNET WEB SITE)."

22 S 350-L. BOTTLED WATER REPORT. 1. ON OR AFTER JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOU-  
23 SAND ELEVEN, AS A CONDITION OF CERTIFICATION BY THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT  
24 TO SECTION TWO HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH LAW, PURVEYORS  
25 OF BOTTLED WATER SHALL ANNUALLY PREPARE A BOTTLED WATER REPORT AND  
26 SHALL, UPON REQUEST, MAKE SUCH REPORT AVAILABLE TO CONSUMERS. SUCH ANNU-  
27 AL REPORT SHALL BE PREPARED IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH.

28 2. FOR PURPOSES OF COMPLYING WITH THIS SECTION, WHEN BOTTLED WATER  
29 COMES FROM A MUNICIPAL SOURCE, THE RELEVANT INFORMATION FROM THE ANNUAL  
30 WATER SUPPLY STATEMENT PREPARED FOR THAT YEAR BY THE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM  
31 PURSUANT TO SECTION ELEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE OR ELEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY-TWO  
32 OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH LAW, MAY BE USED.

33 3. THE BOTTLED WATER REPORT SHALL INCLUDE SUCH INFORMATION AS IS  
34 REQUIRED IN THIS SECTION AS WELL AS ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED  
35 BY THE COMMISSIONER. ADDITIONALLY, THE STATEMENT SHALL PROVIDE A  
36 SECTION WHICH EXPLAINS, IN PLAIN LANGUAGE, THE INFORMATION REQUIRED IN  
37 THE STATEMENT, INCLUDING BRIEF AND PLAINLY WORDED DEFINITIONS OF ANY  
38 TERMS THE COMMISSIONER DETERMINES TO BE APPROPRIATE FOR CARRYING OUT THE  
39 PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE. THE DEPARTMENT MAY PREPARE OR PRESCRIBE A  
40 FORMAT OR MODEL UPON WHICH ALL SUCH REPORTS SHALL BE PRODUCED. THE ANNU-  
41 AL BOTTLED WATER REPORT SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, THE  
42 FOLLOWING ITEMS OF INFORMATION:

43 A. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SOURCE OR SOURCES OF THE WATER AND THE  
44 GENERAL QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE CONDITION OF THE WATER SOURCE,  
45 CONSISTENT WITH APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS;

46 B. THE ANALYTICAL TESTING RESULTS FOR THOSE CONSTITUENTS REQUIRED TO  
47 BE TESTED FOR UNDER PART FIVE OF THE STATE SANITARY CODE OR AS REQUIRED  
48 BY APPROPRIATE LOCAL HEALTH UNITS, EXCEPT FOR MICROBIOLOGICAL RESULTS,  
49 FOR EACH SOURCE OF WATER. WHERE MORE THAN ONE ANALYSIS PER YEAR IS  
50 CONDUCTED ON A SPECIFIC CONSTITUENT, THE BOTTLED WATER COMPANY SHALL  
51 LIST THE RANGE OF RESULTS FROM HIGHEST TO LOWEST DURING THE REPORTING  
52 PERIOD. THE APPLICABLE STATE GUIDELINE, STANDARD, OR MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT  
53 LEVEL FOR EACH CONSTITUENT PRESENT SHALL BE LISTED AND ANY INSTANCE  
54 WHERE A STATE GUIDELINE, STANDARD, OR MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL IS  
55 VIOLATED SHALL BE NOTED. FOR MICROBIOLOGICAL ANALYSES AS REQUIRED BY  
56 PART FIVE OF THE STATE SANITARY CODE, THE BOTTLED WATER COMPANY SHALL

1 INDICATE ANY INSTANCE WHERE THE WATER SUPPLY VIOLATED THE MAXIMUM  
2 CONTAMINANT LEVEL. THE DATE OR DATES OF VIOLATION, THE LOCATION WHERE  
3 THE VIOLATION OCCURRED, AND THE RESPONSE OF THE BOTTLED WATER COMPANY  
4 SHALL BE LISTED;

5 C. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE TYPES OF TREATMENT THAT THE WATER  
6 RECEIVES BEFORE BEING BOTTLED;

7 D. A STATEMENT INDICATING WHETHER THE WATER CONTAINS FLUORIDE. IF THE  
8 WATER CONTAINS FLUORIDE SUCH STATEMENT SHALL INDICATE THE AVERAGE AMOUNT  
9 PRESENT IN A BOTTLE;

10 E. A DESCRIPTION OF THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH EXPOSURE TO CRYPTOSPORI-  
11 DIUM PARVUM OR GIARDIA LAMBLIA FOR SPECIFIC AT-RISK POPULATIONS AND THE  
12 GENERAL PUBLIC AND MEASURES THAT AT-RISK POPULATIONS CAN TAKE TO PROTECT  
13 THEMSELVES ACCORDING TO RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE DEPARTMENT OR OTHER  
14 GOVERNMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH OR ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCIES. IN ADDITION, FOR  
15 WATER WORKS CORPORATIONS THAT TEST FOR CRYPTOSPORIDIUM PARVUM OR GIARDIA  
16 LAMBLIA, A SUMMARY OF THE FOLLOWING: SAMPLING SITES; NUMBER OF TESTS PER  
17 YEAR; TESTING RESULTS AND ACTIONS TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO THOSE RESULTS.  
18 THE COMMISSIONER MAY ADD SUCH ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS AS HE OR SHE  
19 DETERMINES TO BE APPROPRIATE;

20 F. A REFERENCE TO THE UNITED STATES FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION  
21 INTERNET WEB SITE THAT PROVIDES PRODUCT RECALL INFORMATION;

22 G. THE BOTTLED WATER COMPANY'S ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER THAT  
23 ENABLES CUSTOMERS TO OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING CONTAMINANTS  
24 AND POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS;

25 H. INFORMATION ON THE LEVELS OF UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES, IF ANY, FOR  
26 WHICH PURVEYORS OF BOTTLED WATER ARE REQUIRED TO MONITOR PURSUANT TO  
27 STATE OR FEDERAL LAW OR REGULATION; AND

28 I. A FULL DISCLOSURE OF ANY EXEMPTION OR VARIANCE THAT HAS BEEN GRANT-  
29 ED TO THE BOTTLER BY THE DEPARTMENT, INCLUDING AN EXPLANATION OF REASONS  
30 FOR EACH EXEMPTION OR VARIANCE AND THE DATE OF THE EXEMPTION OR VARI-  
31 ANCE.

32 S 350-M. RULES AND REGULATIONS. THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED  
33 AND DIRECTED TO PROMULGATE SUCH RULES AND REGULATIONS NECESSARY AND  
34 PROPER TO EFFECTUATE THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE.

35 S 350-N. ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL. WHENEVER THERE SHALL BE A  
36 VIOLATION OF THIS ARTICLE, APPLICATION MAY BE MADE BY THE ATTORNEY  
37 GENERAL IN THE NAME OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO A COURT OR  
38 JUSTICE HAVING JURISDICTION BY A SPECIAL PROCEEDING TO ISSUE AN INJUNC-  
39 TION, AND UPON NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE DAYS, TO  
40 ENJOIN AND RESTRAIN THE CONTINUANCE OF SUCH VIOLATION; AND IF IT SHALL  
41 APPEAR TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE COURT OR JUSTICE THAT THE DEFENDANT  
42 HAS, IN FACT, VIOLATED THIS ARTICLE, AN INJUNCTION MAY BE ISSUED BY SUCH  
43 COURT OR JUSTICE, ENJOINING AND RESTRAINING ANY FURTHER VIOLATION, WITH-  
44 OUT REQUIRING PROOF THAT ANY PERSON HAS, IN FACT, BEEN INJURED OR  
45 DAMAGED THEREBY. IN CONNECTION WITH ANY SUCH PROPOSED APPLICATION, THE  
46 ATTORNEY GENERAL IS AUTHORIZED TO TAKE PROOF AND MAKE A DETERMINATION OF  
47 THE RELEVANT FACTS AND TO ISSUE SUBPOENAS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CIVIL  
48 PRACTICE LAW AND RULES. WHENEVER THE COURT SHALL DETERMINE THAT A  
49 VIOLATION OF THIS ARTICLE HAS OCCURRED, THE COURT MAY IMPOSE A CIVIL  
50 PENALTY OF NOT MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR A SINGLE VIOLATION AND  
51 NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR MULTIPLE VIOLATIONS  
52 RESULTING FROM A SINGLE ACT OR INCIDENT. THE SECOND VIOLATION AND ANY  
53 VIOLATION COMMITTED THEREAFTER SHALL BE PUNISHABLE BY A CIVIL PENALTY OF  
54 NOT MORE THAN FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR A SINGLE VIOLATION AND NOT MORE  
55 THAN TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR MULTIPLE VIOLATIONS RESULT-  
56 ING FROM A SINGLE ACT OR INCIDENT. NO PERSON, FIRM, PARTNERSHIP, ASSOCI-

1 ATION OR CORPORATION SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE VIOLATED THE PROVISIONS OF  
2 THIS ARTICLE IF SUCH PERSON, FIRM, PARTNERSHIP, ASSOCIATION OR CORPO-  
3 RATION SHOWS, BY A PREPONDERANCE OF THE EVIDENCE, THAT THE VIOLATION WAS  
4 NOT INTENTIONAL AND RESULTED FROM A BONA FIDE ERROR MADE NOTWITHSTANDING  
5 THE MAINTENANCE OF PROCEDURES REASONABLY ADOPTED TO AVOID SUCH ERROR.  
6 S 2. For the purposes of informing and educating persons engaged in  
7 the sale, offering for sale or delivery of bottled water, the department  
8 of health is authorized to issue warnings for the violation of article  
9 22-C of the general business law, as added by section one of this act,  
10 during the period commencing January 1, 2011 and ending May 1, 2011.  
11 S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.