

S. 3552

A. 5668

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

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

February 25, 2011

IN SENATE -- Introduced by Sens. RITCHIE, DeFRANCISCO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government

IN ASSEMBLY -- Introduced by M. of A. MAGEE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Local Governments

AN ACT to amend the general municipal law, in relation to defining search and rescue teams to include voluntary and municipal search and rescue teams

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

1 Section 1. The general municipal law is amended by adding a new
2 section 209-ff to read as follows:
3 S 209-FF. SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAMS AND WORKERS. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS
4 CHAPTER:
5 1. "SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM" MEANS ONLY A VOLUNTARY OR MUNICIPAL
6 WILDERNESS/INLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM WHOSE MEMBERS SHALL HAVE
7 OBTAINED THE MINIMUM LEVEL OF TRAINING OR EXPERIENCE TO MEET QUALIFYING
8 STANDARDS ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION'S
9 OFFICE OF PUBLIC PROTECTION; INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF NEW YORK
10 STATE; FORMED FOR THE PURPOSE OF LOCATING AND RESCUING, OR RECOVERING, A
11 KNOWN INDIVIDUAL OR KNOWN INDIVIDUALS, IN AN UNKNOWN LOCATION, WHOSE
12 SAFETY MAY BE THREATENED BY CONDITIONS RELATED TO THE ENVIRONMENT OR
13 OTHER FACTORS; AND WHICH IS OPERATING NOT FOR PECUNIARY PROFIT OR FINAN-
14 CIAL GAIN.
15 2. "VOLUNTEER SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM WORKER" MEANS AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER
16 MEMBER OF A SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM AS SPECIFIED ON A LIST REGULARLY
17 MAINTAINED BY THE TEAM.
18 S 2. Subdivision 4 of section 209-bb of the general municipal law, as
19 amended by chapter 482 of the laws of 1997, is amended to read as
20 follows:

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

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1 4. For the purposes of this section, "specialized teams" shall mean
2 any emergency team or squad composed of volunteer firefighters, volun-
3 teer ambulance workers, VOLUNTEER SEARCH AND RESCUE WORKERS or municipal
4 employees, who shall have attained the minimum level of training or
5 experience to meet qualifying standards established by the office of
6 fire prevention and control, and which is administered by the state, a
7 county, city or town for the purposes of training for or responding to a
8 man made or natural disaster by carrying out any activities which are
9 within the relevant training and expertise of such municipal employees
10 or are authorized pursuant to the volunteer firefighters' benefit law or
11 the volunteer ambulance workers' benefit law but which are not normally
12 provided by such entities.

13 S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.