

4074

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

March 16, 2011

Introduced by Sen. ZELDIN -- 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 the selling, offering for sale or distribution of any electrical or extension cords with a fraudulent seal for the Underwriters' Laboratory

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

1 Section 1. The general business law is amended by adding a new section
2 349-e to read as follows:

3 S 349-E. SELLING OF FRAUDULENT ELECTRICAL OR EXTENSION CORDS. 1. NO
4 MERCHANT, MANUFACTURER, FIRM, CORPORATION, ASSOCIATION OR AGENT OR
5 EMPLOYEE THEREOF SHALL SELL, OFFER FOR SALE OR DISTRIBUTE IN THIS STATE
6 ANY ELECTRICAL CORD OR EXTENSION CORD WITH A FRAUDULENT SEAL FOR THE
7 UNDERWRITERS' LABORATORY. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE TERM
8 "MERCHANT" SHALL MEAN A PERSON, FIRM OR CORPORATION ENGAGED IN THE SALE,
9 DISPLAY OR OFFERING FOR SALE OF CONSUMER PRODUCTS OR MERCHANDISE AT
10 RETAIL TO A CONSUMER.

11 2. EVERY MERCHANT, MANUFACTURER, FIRM, CORPORATION OR ASSOCIATION
12 SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION OF ITS EMPLOYEES TO
13 LEARN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CERTIFIED UNDERWRITERS' LABORATORY ELEC-
14 TRICAL OR EXTENSION CORDS AND FRAUDULENT OR COUNTERFEIT ELECTRICAL OR
15 EXTENSION CORDS.

16 3. THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION SHALL NOT BE DEEMED TO ALTER OR
17 OTHERWISE SUPERSEDE ANY OTHER LABELING OR DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENT IMPOSED
18 BY STATE OR FEDERAL LAW.

19 4. ENFORCEMENT SHALL BE PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE ENFORCE-
20 MENT ENTITY.

21 5. FOR THE FIRST CIVIL PENALTY OF THIS SECTION, A ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR
22 FINE SHALL BE ISSUED AND SUCH PERSON SHALL ATTEND A TRAINING SEMINAR ON
23 HOW TO IDENTIFY FALSE UNDERWRITERS' LABORATORY LABELS. FOR THE SECOND OR

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

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1 MORE OFFENSES OF THIS SECTION, THERE SHALL BE UP TO A TWO THOUSAND FIVE
2 HUNDRED DOLLAR FINE FOR A PRIVATE RETAILER.

3 6. A TRAINING COMPONENT SHALL BE CREATED AND PROVIDED BY THE OFFICE OF
4 FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL AND SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE ON ITS WEBSITE.
5 ANY PERSON FOUND SELLING ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS WITH FALSE UNDERWRITERS'
6 LABORATORY LABELS SHALL TAKE AN ON-LINE COURSE.

7 S 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after
8 it shall have become a law.