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

5444

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

May 23, 2011

Introduced by Sen. ZELDIN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to providing reimbursement to fire companies for costs associated with responding to releases of hazardous materials

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

Section 1. Section 27-0901 of the environmental conservation law is amended by adding a new subdivision 16 to read as follows:

16. "FIRE COMPANY" MEANS A FIRE COMPANY AS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION TWO OF SECTION ONE HUNDRED OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW.

S 2. The environmental conservation law is amended by adding a new section 27-0927 to read as follows:

S 27-0927. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RELEASE RESPONSE COSTS.

1. ANY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OR FIRE DISTRICT WHICH CONTRACTS WITH OR CONTROLS A FIRE COMPANY SHALL BE ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE RESPONSE OF SUCH FIRE COMPANY TO ANY INCIDENT INVOLVING THE RELEASE OR THREATENED RELEASE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS BY A TRANSPORTER OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AFTER APPROVAL BY THE STATE FIRE ADMINISTRATOR. REIMBURSEMENT SHALL BE LIMITED TO EXPENDABLE MATERIALS USED IN THE RESPONSE AND BE LIMITED TO TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS PER INCIDENT; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT SUCH REIMBURSEMENT SHALL NOT BE CONSTRUED TO LIMIT ANY REIMBURSEMENT THAT MAY BE AVAILABLE PURSUANT TO SECTION ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-ONE OF THE NAVIGATION LAW. EXPENDABLE MATERIALS SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, FOAMS AND GELS USED TO ABSORB THE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RELEASED, THE REPLACEMENT OR CLEANING OF PROTECTIVE CLOTHING USED IN RESPONDING TO THE INCIDENT, AND THE REPLACEMENT OR CLEANING OF STORAGE CONTAINERS, DETECTION SUPPLIES AND OTHER EQUIPMENT USED IN RESPONDING TO THE INCIDENT; PROVIDED HOWEVER, THAT SUCH REIMBURSEMENT SHALL NOT INCLUDE THE COSTS OF PERSONNEL, VEHICLES, OR OTHER DURABLE EQUIPMENT USED IN RESPONSE TO THE INCIDENT. SUCH

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

LBD02874-02-1

REIMBURSEMENT SHALL BE MADE DIRECTLY FROM SUCH TRANSPORTER OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TO THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OR FIRE DISTRICT THAT CONTRACTS WITH OR CONTROLS SUCH FIRE COMPANY AND THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OR FIRE DISTRICT THAT CONTRACTS WITH OR CONTROLS SUCH FIRE COMPANY IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO BILL SUCH TRANSPORTER OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS FOR SUCH COSTS. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE TERM "HAZARDOUS MATERIALS" SHALL HAVE THE SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION FOURTEEN-F OF THE TRANSPORTATION LAW. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE TERM "TRANSPORTER" SHALL NOT INCLUDE RAILROADS AS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISIONS TWENTY-FOUR, TWENTY-FIVE AND TWENTY-NINE OF SECTION TWO OF THE TRANSPORTATION LAW.

2. THE STATE FIRE ADMINISTRATOR SHALL ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION AND DEVELOP AND MAKE AVAILABLE REIMBURSEMENT FORMS TO ENABLE A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OR FIRE DISTRICT THAT CONTRACTS WITH OR CONTROLS A FIRE COMPANY TO BILL A TRANSPORTER OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS FOR COSTS INCURRED IN RESPONDING TO A RELEASE OR THREATENED RELEASE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. THE FIRE COMPANIES OF THE STATE SHALL BE PROVIDED ACCESS TO THE FORMS. PRIOR TO SUBMITTING SUCH FORM TO A TRANSPORTER FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF SUCH COSTS INCURRED, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OR FIRE DISTRICT THAT CONTRACTS WITH OR CONTROLS A FIRE COMPANY SHALL SUBMIT SUCH FORM TO THE STATE FIRE ADMINISTRATOR, WHO SHALL APPROVE OR DENY SUCH REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT AUTHORITY WITHIN THIRTY DAYS OF RECEIPT OF THE REQUEST. A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OR FIRE DISTRICT THAT CONTRACTS WITH OR CONTROLS A FIRE COMPANY MAY SEEK REIMBURSEMENT FROM A TRANSPORTER ONLY AFTER THE STATE FIRE ADMINISTRATOR HAS APPROVED SUCH REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT.

3. ONCE THE STATE FIRE ADMINISTRATOR HAS APPROVED THE REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT, THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OR FIRE DISTRICT WHICH CONTRACTS WITH OR CONTROLS THE FIRE COMPANY SHALL HAVE A CAUSE OF ACTION TO RECOVER UNPAID MONIES TO WHICH THEY ARE ENTITLED UNDER SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION. RECOVERY OF UNPAID MONIES UNDER A CAUSE OF ACTION BROUGHT UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE LIMITED TO THE AMOUNT SET FORTH IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION. THE REIMBURSEMENT AUTHORITY AND CAUSE OF ACTION SHALL BE THE EXCLUSIVE ENFORCEMENT REMEDIES AVAILABLE UNDER THIS SECTION.

S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.