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

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2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 1, 2011

Introduced by M. of A. RAIA, CONTE, CROUCH, KOLB -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. BARCLAY, BURLING, FINCH, FITZPATRICK, McDONOUGH, J. MILLER, RABBITT, SAYWARD, TEDISCO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Aging

AN ACT in relation to authorizing and directing the office for the aging to study the feasibility of creating a state-wide program to track certain elderly individuals

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

Section 1. The office for the aging, in conjunction with the department of health, the state police and any other law enforcement agency or senior advocacy group the office for the aging chooses to consult with, is hereby authorized and directed to study the feasibility of creating a statewide program to track elderly individuals afflicted with, but not limited to, Alzheimer's disease or dementia, who have wandered off from their residences. An individual or his or her family would have to opt-in to such program and it would be limited to individuals living in private residences, not in nursing homes or assisted living facilities.

S 2. In completing such study, the office for the aging shall contact and confer with Project Lifesaver and any other similar organizations providing global positioning system tracking for elderly individuals. Additionally, such office shall study the global positioning system tracking of elderly individuals programs currently in place in the counties of Livingston and Ontario to determine if such programs would be appropriate for state wide application.

S 3. One year after the effective date of this act, the office for the aging shall prepare a report that shall include, but not be limited to: recommendations for implementing such a program; guidelines for such implementation; and a fiscal note concerning the cost of implementing a program. Such report shall be disseminated to the governor, the temporary president of the senate; the speaker of the assembly; the minority

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

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leader of the senate; the minority leader of the assembly and the chairpersons and ranking members of the senate and assembly aging committees. Such report shall be posted on the website of the office for the aging.

S 4. This act shall take effect immediately.