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2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

(PREFILED)

January 5, 2011

Introduced by M. of A. SAYWARD, DUPREY, FINCH, GIGLIO -- Multi-Sponsored
by -- M. of A. CROUCH -- read once and referred to the Committee on
Transportation

AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to access roads to state
forest preserve lands or lands under the jurisdiction of the environ-
mental conservation department

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

- 1 Section 1. Section 205-b of the highway law, as added by chapter 203
2 of the laws of 1976, the opening paragraph of subdivision 1 as amended
3 by chapter 121 of the laws of 1985, is amended to read as follows:
4 S 205-b. Qualified abandonment of certain town highways. 1. Abandon-
5 ment of town highways which are access roads to state forest preserve
6 lands or lands now owned or hereafter acquired by the state and held
7 under the jurisdiction of the department of environmental conservation
8 shall be qualifiedly abandoned in the following manner and shall have
9 the following effect:
10 a. upon written notice to the department of environmental conserva-
11 tion, the town shall follow the procedure provided for in subdivision
12 two of section two hundred five of this [chapter] ARTICLE;
13 b. the resolution of abandonment shall provide that even though the
14 responsibility of maintenance of the road by the town shall cease, there
15 shall remain a public easement over such road in perpetuity;
16 c. the department of environmental conservation shall have the right
17 to maintain such road if it so desires;
18 d. no one, including the owner of adjoining land, may fence any
19 portion of such road, with or without gates;
20 e. the town, at any time, shall have the right to resume jurisdiction
21 over such road for any purpose;
22 f. the title to such road shall remain with the town.

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

LBD01302-01-1

1 2. [For the purposes of this section, access roads to state forest
2 preserve lands or lands under the jurisdiction of the environmental
3 conservation department shall mean roads which are the only practical
4 means of ingress or egress to such state lands.

5 3.] In no event shall the provisions of this section be construed so
6 as to require the maintenance or abandonment of roads within the state
7 forest preserve lands or lands now owned or hereafter acquired by the
8 state.

9 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.