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

8039

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

May 27, 2011

Introduced by M. of A. SPANO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to updating the fire safety components of school buses

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

Section 1. Section 375 of the vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding two new subdivisions 21-j and 21-k to read as follows:

21-J. (A) EVERY SCHOOL BUS MANUFACTURED FOR USE IN THIS STATE ON OR AFTER JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND FOURTEEN SHALL CONTAIN OCCUPANT SEATING WHICH MEETS THE FIRE SAFETY CRITERIA OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TESTING MATERIALS TEST E 1537.

(B) THE COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION SHALL PROMULGATE RULES AND REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING STANDARDS FOR TESTING TO PROMOTE THE FIRE SAFETY OF SCHOOL BUSES AND SHALL INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

1. THAT WHEN THE TEST IS CONDUCTED ON A COMPLETE SEAT ASSEMBLY INSIDE A TEST ROOM OR A SCHOOL BUS THAT THE SEATING WILL FAIL THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH (A) OF THIS SUBDIVISION IF EITHER THE SEAT ASSEMBLY EXHIBITS A WEIGHT LOSS OF THREE POUNDS OR GREATER DURING THE FIRST TEN MINUTES OF THE TEST OR THE SEAT ASSEMBLY EXHIBITS A HEAT RELEASE RATE OF EIGHTY KILOWATTS OR GREATER.

2. THAT ON AND AFTER THE DATE THE FIRE SAFETY STANDARDS TAKE EFFECT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBDIVISION NO SCHOOL BUS SHALL BE SOLD OR OFFERED FOR SALE IN THIS STATE UNLESS THE MANUFACTURER HAS CERTIFIED TO SUCH COMMISSIONER, IN A FORM ACCEPTABLE TO SUCH COMMISSIONER, THAT THE FIRE SAFETY CRITERIA STANDARDS PRESCRIBED BY THIS SUBDIVISION HAVE BEEN MET.

21-K. (A) ALL PLASTIC COMPONENTS CONTAINED IN THE ENGINE COMPARTMENT OF EVERY SCHOOL BUS MANUFACTURED FOR USE IN THIS STATE ON OR AFTER JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND FOURTEEN SHALL MEET A V-0 CLASSIFICATION WHEN

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

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TESTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNDERWRITERS LABORATORIES STANDARDS FOR SAFETY UL 94.

(B) THE COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION SHALL PROMULGATE RULES AND REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING STANDARDS FOR TESTING OF PLASTIC ENGINE COMPONENTS AS REQUIRED BY PARAGRAPH (A) OF THIS SUBDIVISION TO PROMOTE THE FIRE SAFETY OF SCHOOL BUSES AND SHALL INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENT: THAT ON AND AFTER THE DATE THE FIRE SAFETY STANDARDS TAKE EFFECT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBDIVISION NO SCHOOL BUS SHALL BE SOLD OR OFFERED FOR SALE IN THIS STATE UNLESS THE MANUFACTURER HAS CERTIFIED TO SUCH COMMISSIONER, IN A FORM ACCEPTABLE TO SUCH COMMISSIONER, THAT THE FIRE SAFETY CRITERIA STANDARDS PRESCRIBED BY THIS SUBDIVISION HAVE BEEN MET.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.