

3849--A

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

March 7, 2011

Introduced by Sens. OPPENHEIMER, DIAZ -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Health -- recommended to the Committee on Health in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to the membership of the state camp safety advisory council; and to direct the commissioner of health to conduct a study of youth camp safety

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

1 Section 1. Section 1390 of the public health law, as amended by chap-
2 ter 337 of the laws of 1980, is amended to read as follows:
3 S 1390. Establishment of state camp safety advisory council. The
4 commissioner [of health] shall establish within the [state] department
5 [of health] a state camp safety advisory council to advise and consult
6 on policy matters relating to youth camp safety. The council shall
7 consist of [nine] TWELVE members to be appointed by the governor with
8 the advice and consent of the senate. Three members of the council shall
9 be representatives of youth camps operated in New York for profit, three
10 members of the council shall be representatives of youth camps operated
11 in New York under philanthropic, non-profit or charitable auspices, one
12 member of the council shall be a representative of youth camp consumer
13 interests, [one] FOUR MEMBERS shall be [a representative] REPRESENTA-
14 TIVES of children's interests who [does] DO not operate [a] children's
15 [camp] CAMPS, and one MEMBER shall be a representative of summer day
16 camps and traveling summer day camps operated by municipal corporations
17 and other entities subject to article thirteen-D of this chapter. The
18 council shall elect from among its members a chairman. On or before
19 January first, nineteen hundred seventy-four, the governor shall appoint
20 two youth camp representative members for a term of two years, two youth
21 camp representative members for a term of four years and two youth camp

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

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1 representative members for a term of six years. Biennially thereafter
2 the youth camp representative members shall be appointed to [said] SUCH
3 council in like manner to succeed those whose terms expire, to serve for
4 terms of six years each and until their successors are appointed. The
5 member representative of youth camp consumer interests shall also serve
6 for a term of six years and until a successor is appointed. On or before
7 January first, nineteen hundred eighty-one, the governor shall appoint
8 [the] ONE representative of children's interests for a term of four
9 years and the representative of summer day camps and traveling summer
10 day camps operated by municipal corporations and other entities subject
11 to article thirteen-D of this chapter for a term of two years. ON OR
12 BEFORE JULY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND THIRTEEN, THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT
13 THREE REPRESENTATIVES OF CHILDREN'S INTERESTS FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS.
14 Thereafter, each succeeding representative of children's interests and
15 each succeeding representative of [said] SUCH summer day camps and trav-
16 eling summer day camps shall serve terms of six years each and until
17 their successors are appointed. Vacancies shall be filled by the gover-
18 nor for the unexpired portion of the term. [Said] ALL EXPIRED TERMS AND
19 VACANCIES SHALL BE FILLED WITHIN SIXTY DAYS OF THE EXPIRATION OF THE
20 TERM OR OCCURRENCE OF THE VACANCY. SUCH council shall meet at least
21 twice a year, and more often if necessary, on the call of the chairman
22 or on the call of the commissioner [of health]. The members of the coun-
23 cil shall receive no compensation but shall be reimbursed for their
24 reasonable traveling and other expenses incurred in the performance of
25 their official duties.

26 S 2. a. The commissioner of health shall conduct a study of the feasi-
27 bility of improving the statutes, rules and regulations governing and
28 the practices utilized by youth camps. The commissioner shall include,
29 at a minimum, the following:

30 (1) the feasibility of establishing a uniform, standardized training
31 and testing system for youth camp counselors including the establishment
32 of minimum standards of proficiency in first aid and water safety. Such
33 study shall review the feasibility of developing counselor orientation
34 materials and programs for use prior to the arrival of children partic-
35 ipating in the camp. Such study shall also review the required
36 counselor/camper ratio for cardio pulmonary resuscitation training;

37 (2) the feasibility of providing periodic mandated workshops for local
38 health inspectors responsible for the inspection of youth camp health
39 and safety regulations, as well as the monitoring of local streams,
40 lakes, rivers and other bodies of water to warn the public and local
41 camps of hazardous water conditions; and

42 (3) the feasibility of providing periodic mandated workshops for youth
43 camp directors.

44 In studying the feasibility of establishing such workshops and train-
45 ing, the commissioner of health shall estimate the costs of these
46 programs and possible fees that could be structured to support them.

47 b. The commissioner of health shall submit a report of his or her
48 findings and recommendations, derived from the study conducted pursuant
49 to this section, to the governor and the legislature within one year of
50 the effective date of this act.

51 S 3. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
52 have become a law; provided, however, that the governor is authorized
53 and directed to appoint members to the state camp safety advisory coun-
54 cil on or before such effective date to fill any expired terms, vacan-
55 cies or additional member positions which shall exist on such date.