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

4269--A

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

March 25, 2011

Introduced by Sen. GOLDEN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Health -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to prohibiting the sale of hookahs, shisha and water pipes to minors

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

Section 1. Section 1399-aa of the public health law is amended by adding a new subdivision 12 to read as follows:

12. "SHISHA" MEANS ANY PRODUCT MADE PRIMARILY OF TOBACCO OR OTHER LEAF, OR ANY COMBINATION THEREOF, SMOKED OR INTENDED TO BE SMOKED IN A HOOKAH OR WATER PIPE.

S 2. Section 1399-cc of the public health law, as amended by chapter 508 of the laws of 2000, subdivision 3 as separately amended by chapter 508 of the laws of 2000 and chapter 162 of the laws of 2002, subdivision 7 as amended by chapter 13 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

S 1399-cc. Sale of tobacco products, herbal cigarettes, SHISHA, rolling papers or [pipes] SMOKING PARAPHERNALIA to minors prohibited. 1. As used in this section:

(a) "A device capable of deciphering any electronically readable format" or "device" shall mean any commercial device or combination of devices used at a point of sale or entry that is capable of reading the information encoded on the bar code or magnetic strip of a driver's license or non-driver identification card issued by the state commissioner of motor vehicles;

(b) "Card holder" means any person presenting a driver's license or non-driver identification card to a licensee, or to the agent or employee of such licensee under this chapter; [and]

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

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(c) "SMOKING PARAPHERNALIA" MEANS ANY PIPE, WATER PIPE, HOOKAH, ROLLING PAPERS, VAPORIZER OR ANY OTHER DEVICE, EQUIPMENT OR APPARATUS DESIGNED FOR THE INHALATION OF TOBACCO; AND

(D) "Transaction scan" means the process involving an automated bar code reader by which a licensee, or agent or employee of a licensee under this chapter reviews a driver's license or non-driver identification card presented as a precondition for the purchase of a tobacco product or herbal cigarettes pursuant to subdivision three of this section;

2. Any person operating a place of business wherein tobacco products [or], herbal cigarettes OR SHISHA, are sold or offered for sale is prohibited from selling such products, herbal cigarettes, [rolling papers or pipes] SHISHA OR SMOKING PARAPHERNALIA to individuals under eighteen years of age, and shall post in a conspicuous place a sign upon which there shall be imprinted the following statement, "SALE OF CIGARETTES, CIGARS, CHEWING TOBACCO, POWDERED TOBACCO, SHISHA OR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS, HERBAL CIGARETTES, ROLLING PAPERS OR [PIPES] SMOKING PARAPHERNALIA, TO PERSONS UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE IS PROHIBITED BY LAW." Such sign shall be printed on a white card in red letters at least one-half inch in height.

3. Sale of tobacco products [or], herbal cigarettes OR SHISHA in such places, other than by a vending machine, shall be made only to an individual who demonstrates, through (a) a valid driver's license or non-driver's identification card issued by the commissioner of motor vehicles, the federal government, any United States territory, commonwealth or possession, the District of Columbia, a state government within the United States or a provincial government of the dominion of Canada, or (b) a valid passport issued by the United States government or any other country, or (c) an identification card issued by the armed forces of the United States, indicating that the individual is at least eighteen years of age. Such identification need not be required of any individual who reasonably appears to be at least twenty-five years of age, provided, however, that such appearance shall not constitute a defense in any proceeding alleging the sale of a tobacco product [or], herbal cigarettes OR SHISHA to an individual under eighteen years of age.

4. (a) Any person operating a place of business wherein tobacco products [or], herbal cigarettes OR SHISHA are sold or offered for sale may perform a transaction scan as a precondition for such purchases.

(b) In any instance where the information deciphered by the transaction scan fails to match the information printed on the driver's license or non-driver identification card, or if the transaction scan indicates that the information is false or fraudulent, the attempted transaction shall be denied.

(c) In any proceeding pursuant to section thirteen hundred-ninety-nine-ee of this article, it shall be an affirmative defense that such person had produced a driver's license or non-driver identification card apparently issued by a governmental entity, successfully completed that transaction scan, and that the tobacco product or herbal cigarettes had been sold, delivered or given to such person in reasonable reliance upon such identification and transaction scan. In evaluating the applicability of such affirmative defense the commissioner shall take into consideration any written policy adopted and implemented by the seller to effectuate the provisions of this chapter. Use of a transaction scan shall not excuse any person operating a place of business wherein tobacco products [or], herbal cigarettes OR SHISHA are sold, or the agent or employee of such person, from the exercise of reasonable diligence

otherwise required by this chapter. Notwithstanding the above provisions, any such affirmative defense shall not be applicable in any civil or criminal proceeding, or in any other forum.

5. A licensee or agent or employee of such licensee shall only use a device capable of deciphering any electronically readable format, and shall only use the information recorded and maintained through the use of such devices, for the purposes contained in subdivision four of this section. No licensee or agent or employee of a licensee shall resell or disseminate the information recorded during such a scan to any third person. Such prohibited resale or dissemination includes but is not limited to any advertising, marketing or promotional activities. Notwithstanding the restrictions imposed by this subdivision, such records may be released pursuant to a court ordered subpoena or pursuant to any other statute that specifically authorizes the release of such information. Each violation of this subdivision shall be punishable by a civil penalty of not more than one thousand dollars.

6. A licensee or agent or employee of such a licensee may electronically or mechanically record and maintain only the information from a transaction scan necessary to effectuate this section. Such information shall be limited to the following: (a) name, (b) date of birth, (c) driver's license or non-driver identification number, and (d) expiration date. The commissioner and state commissioner of motor vehicles shall jointly promulgate any regulations necessary to govern the recording and maintenance of these records by a licensee under this chapter. The commissioner and the state liquor authority shall jointly promulgate any regulation necessary to ensure quality control in the use of the transaction scan devices under this chapter and article five of the alcoholic beverage control law.

7. No person operating a place of business wherein tobacco products [or], herbal cigarettes OR SHISHA are sold or offered for sale shall sell, permit to be sold, offer for sale or display for sale any tobacco product [or], herbal cigarettes OR SHISHA in any manner, unless such products and cigarettes are stored for sale (a) behind a counter in an area accessible only to the personnel of such business, or (b) in a locked container; provided, however, such restriction shall not apply to tobacco businesses, as defined in subdivision eight of section thirteen hundred ninety-nine-aa of this article, and to places to which admission is restricted to persons eighteen years of age or older.

S 3. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.