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

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I N A S S E M B L Y

August 20, 2014

Introduced by COMMITTEE ON RULES -- (at request of M. of A. Sepulveda) -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the civil rights law, in relation to videotaping uniformed personnel in the course of carrying out their professional duties

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

Section 1. The civil rights law is amended by adding a new section 79-o to read as follows:

S 79-O. RIGHT TO VIDEOTAPE UNIFORMED PERSONNEL. 1. ANY PERSON MAY VIDEOTAPE UNIFORMED PERSONNEL IN THE COURSE OF CARRYING OUT THEIR DUTIES, AS LONG AS SUCH PERSON DOES NOT INTERFERE WITH UNIFORMED PERSONNEL FROM CARRYING OUT THEIR DUTIES.

2. "UNIFORMED PERSONNEL" AS USED IN THIS SECTION, SHALL MEAN POLICE, FIREFIGHTERS, EMERGENCY TECHNICIANS AND PARAMEDICS.

3. A PERSON WHO IS PREVENTED OR PROHIBITED FROM VIDEOTAPING, AS DESCRIBED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION, BY UNIFORMED PERSONNEL, MAY RECOVER DAMAGES IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS PER VIOLATION.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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