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2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

January 17, 2013

Introduced by M. of A. WEISENBERG, GALEF, McKEVITT, MILLER, COLTON, COOK, ZEBROWSKI, ROSENTHAL, JAFFEE, HOOPER, MAISEL, CASTRO -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. DINOWITZ, DUPREY, GOTTFRIED, HIKIND, JACOBS, JORDAN, ROBINSON, SCHIMEL, SWEENEY, TITONE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Consumer Affairs and Protection

AN ACT to amend the general business law, in relation to requiring sunscreen products to be labeled with a best if used before date and storage recommendations

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

- 1 Section 1. The general business law is amended by adding a new section
2 399-j to read as follows:
3 S 399-J. DATE AND STORAGE LABELING OF SUNSCREEN PRODUCTS. 1. IT SHALL
4 BE UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON, FIRM, CORPORATION, PARTNERSHIP, LIMITED
5 LIABILITY CORPORATION, OR OTHER ENTITY TO MANUFACTURE, FOR SALE, RESALE,
6 OR DISTRIBUTION IN THIS STATE, SUNSCREEN WHICH DOES NOT CONTAIN A CLEAR
7 AND CONSPICUOUS LABEL INDICATING A DATE ON WHICH THE PRODUCT IS BEST IF
8 USED BEFORE. THE DATE REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION SHALL BE LABELED BY MONTH
9 AND YEAR.
10 2. IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON, FIRM, CORPORATION, PARTNER-
11 SHIP, LIMITED LIABILITY CORPORATION, OR OTHER ENTITY TO MANUFACTURE, FOR
12 SALE, RESALE, OR DISTRIBUTION IN THIS STATE, SUNSCREEN WHICH DOES NOT
13 CONTAIN A CLEAR AND CONSPICUOUS LABEL PROVIDING INFORMATION REGARDING
14 THE RECOMMENDED STORAGE OF SUCH SUNSCREEN PRODUCT.
15 3. NO PERSON, FIRM, CORPORATION, PARTNERSHIP, LIMITED LIABILITY CORPO-
16 RATION, OR OTHER ENTITY SHALL SELL SUNSCREEN WHICH IT KNOWS DOES NOT
17 CONTAIN THE LABELING INFORMATION REQUIRED BY SUBDIVISIONS ONE AND TWO OF
18 THIS SECTION.
19 4. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, SUNSCREEN SHALL MEAN SUNBLOCK OR
20 SIMILAR LOTION OR TOPICAL PREPARATION MANUFACTURED AND SOLD FOR THE SOLE

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

LBD01420-01-3

1 PURPOSE OF PROTECTING THE SKIN FROM SOLAR AND ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT EXPO-
2 SURE.

3 5. (A) WHENEVER THERE SHALL BE A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION, AN APPLI-
4 CATION MAY BE MADE BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL IN THE NAME OF THE PEOPLE OF
5 THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO A COURT OR JUSTICE HAVING JURISDICTION BY A
6 SPECIAL PROCEEDING TO ISSUE AN INJUNCTION, AND UPON NOTICE TO THE
7 DEFENDANT OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE DAYS, TO ENJOIN OR RESTRAIN THE CONTIN-
8 UANCE OF SUCH VIOLATION; AND IF IT SHALL APPEAR TO THE SATISFACTION OF
9 THE COURT OR JUSTICE THAT THE DEFENDANT HAS, IN FACT, VIOLATED THIS
10 SECTION, AN INJUNCTION MAY BE ISSUED BY SUCH COURT OR JUSTICE, ENJOINING
11 AND RESTRAINING ANY FURTHER VIOLATION, WITHOUT REQUIRING PROOF THAT ANY
12 PERSON HAS, IN FACT, BEEN INJURED OR DAMAGED THEREBY. IN ANY SUCH
13 PROCEEDING, THE COURT MAY MAKE ALLOWANCES TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AS
14 PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH SIX OF SUBDIVISION (A) OF SECTION EIGHTY-THREE
15 HUNDRED THREE OF THE CIVIL PRACTICE LAW AND RULES, AND DIRECT RESTITU-
16 TION. WHENEVER THE COURT SHALL DETERMINE THAT A VIOLATION OF THIS
17 SECTION HAS OCCURRED, THE COURT MAY IMPOSE A CIVIL PENALTY OF NOT MORE
18 THAN TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS FOR EACH SUCH VIOLATION. IN CONNECTION
19 WITH ANY SUCH PROPOSED APPLICATION, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL IS AUTHORIZED
20 TO TAKE PROOF AND MAKE A DETERMINATION OF THE RELEVANT FACTS AND TO
21 ISSUE SUBPOENAS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CIVIL PRACTICE LAW AND RULES.

22 (B) IN ADDITION TO THE AUTHORITY GRANTED TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
23 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, ANY PERSON WHO HAS BEEN INJURED BY REASON OF
24 ANY VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION MAY BRING AN ACTION IN HIS OR HER OWN NAME
25 TO ENJOIN SUCH UNLAWFUL ACT OR PRACTICE. IN SUCH ACTION, SUCH PERSON MAY
26 RECOVER HIS OR HER ACTUAL DAMAGES OR TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS, WHICHEV-
27 ER IS GREATER. THE COURT MAY, IN ITS DISCRETION INCREASE THE DAMAGE
28 AWARD TO AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS. THE COURT MAY
29 AWARD REASONABLE ATTORNEYS' FEES TO A PREVAILING PLAINTIFF.

30 S 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after
31 it shall have become a law.