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

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2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

May 28, 2013

Introduced by M. of A. KELLNER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Libraries and Education Technology

AN ACT to amend the public buildings law, in relation to requiring the installation of an assistive listening system in public libraries for use by the hearing impaired

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

Section 1. Section 53 of the public buildings law, as amended by chapter 23 of the laws of 1989, is amended to read as follows:

S 53. Assistive listening systems. 1. All new public buildings, construction of which commences after January first, nineteen hundred ninety-one, containing an auditorium, theater, meeting hall, hearing room, amphitheater, or room used in any similar capacity which are so designated by the appropriate building and fire code shall have equipped and installed an assistive listening system for use by hearing impaired persons who require the use of such a system to improve their reception of sound.

2. NOTWITHSTANDING SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION, ALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES SHALL BE EQUIPPED WITH AN ASSISTIVE LISTENING SYSTEM FOR USE BY HEARING IMPAIRED PERSONS WHO REQUIRE THE USE OF SUCH A SYSTEM TO IMPROVE THEIR RECEPTION OF SOUND. SUCH ASSISTIVE LISTENING SYSTEMS SHALL BE INSTALLED ON OR BEFORE JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN.

3. Standards for such systems shall be developed by the state fire prevention and building code council upon receiving recommendations from the advisory board on assistive listening systems in places of public assembly.

[3.] 4. For purposes of this section, the term "assistive listening system" shall mean situational-personal acoustic communication equipment designed to improve the transmission and auditory reception of sound.

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

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5. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE TERM "PUBLIC LIBRARY" SHALL MEAN ANY PUBLIC OR ASSOCIATION LIBRARY AS DEFINED BY SECTION TWO HUNDRED FIFTY-THREE OF THE EDUCATION LAW.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.