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2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

(PREFILED)

January 9, 2013

Introduced by M. of A. ROSENTHAL, DINOWITZ, GUNTHER, MILLMAN, ROBINSON,
WEPRIN -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. ARROYO, COOK, ENGLEBRIGHT,
MAGEE, SCHIMEL -- read once and referred to the Committee on Children
and Families

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to requiring cord-
less window coverings in child day care centers, public institutions
for children and certain other facilities

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

1 Section 1. The social services law is amended by adding a new section
2 390-i to read as follows:
3 S 390-I. CORDLESS WINDOW COVERINGS REQUIRED. 1. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS
4 SECTION THE FOLLOWING TERMS SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS SET FORTH BELOW:
5 (A) "BEADED CHAIN" MEANS A SERIES OF SMALL SPHERES, EQUALLY SPACED ON
6 A CORD OR CONNECTED BY METAL SHAFTS USED TO RAISE AND LOWER A WINDOW
7 COVERING.
8 (B) "CORD LOOP" MEANS A CURVING OR DOUBLING OF A BEADED CHAIN OR CORD
9 TO FORM A CLOSED LOOP.
10 (C) "CORDLESS WINDOW COVERING" MEANS:
11 (I) A HORIZONTAL BLIND OR CELLULAR SHADE THAT HAS NO DRAW CORD AND THE
12 INTERNAL LIFT CORD RUNS IN THE SLATS OF THE HORIZONTAL BLIND SO THAT THE
13 CORD IS INCAPABLE OF FORMING A LOOP GREATER THAN 7.25 INCHES;
14 (II) A ROMAN SHADE, ROLL-UP BLIND, OR WOVEN SHADE THAT HAS NO DRAW
15 CORD AND THE LIFT CORD IS COMPLETELY ENCLOSED SO THAT IT IS NOT ACCESSI-
16 BLE;
17 (III) A VERTICAL BLIND THAT HAS A WAND AS ITS OPERATING MECHANISM AND
18 DOES NOT CONTAIN ANY BEADED CHAINS, CORDED PULLEYS, OR OTHER CORD LOOP
19 OPERATING MECHANISMS; AND
20 (IV) A ROLLER SHADE THAT DOES NOT CONTAIN A CORD OR BEADED CHAIN.

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

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1 (D) "DRAW CORD" MEANS ANY FORM OF ROPE, STRAP, OR STRING USED TO RAISE
2 OR LOWER A WINDOW COVERING.

3 (E) "INTERNAL LIFT CORD" MEANS A CORD THAT IS CONTAINED INSIDE THE
4 BODY AND RAILS OF THE BLIND OR SHADE.

5 (F) "WAND" MEANS A ROD USED TO:

6 (I) ROTATE A VERTICAL BLIND; OR

7 (II) TILT A HORIZONTAL BLIND.

8 2. ANY AGENCY BOARDING HOME, GROUP HOME, CHILD DAY CARE CENTER, PUBLIC
9 INSTITUTION FOR CHILDREN, OR ANY AUTHORIZED AGENCY NOT INCLUDING A
10 FOSTER HOME, FAMILY DAY CARE CENTER OR GROUP FAMILY DAY CARE CENTER
11 INSTALLING NEW OR REPLACEMENT WINDOW COVERINGS ON OR AFTER OCTOBER
12 FIRST, TWO THOUSAND FOURTEEN, SHALL INSTALL CORDLESS WINDOW COVERINGS OR
13 WINDOW COVERINGS WITH INACCESSIBLE OPERATIONAL AND INNER CORDS.

14 3. ANY AGENCY BOARDING HOME, GROUP HOME, CHILD DAY CARE CENTER, OR
15 PUBLIC INSTITUTION FOR CHILDREN OR ANY AUTHORIZED AGENCY NOT INCLUDING A
16 FOSTER HOME, FAMILY DAY CARE CENTER OR GROUP FAMILY DAY CARE CENTER THAT
17 HAS WINDOW COVERINGS IN PLACE BEFORE OCTOBER FIRST, TWO THOUSAND FOUR-
18 TEEN, SHALL MEET MINIMUM SAFETY STANDARDS ESTABLISHED IN REGULATIONS
19 JOINTLY ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES AND
20 THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION THAT INCLUDE STANDARDS FOR:

21 (A) ROMAN SHADES, ROLL-UP SHADES, WOVEN SHADES, AND ALL WINDOW
22 COVERINGS WITH EXPOSED AND UNSECURED CORDS;

23 (B) HORIZONTAL BLINDS, CELLULAR SHADES, AND ALL WINDOW COVERINGS THAT
24 HAVE DRAW CORDS FOR THEIR OPERATION; AND

25 (C) VERTICAL BLINDS AND OTHER WINDOW COVERING PRODUCTS WITH LOOPS
26 UTILIZED IN THEIR OPERATION.

27 4. IF A PERSON FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBDIVISION
28 THREE OF THIS SECTION, THE AUTHORIZED AGENCY MAY REQUIRE REPLACEMENT OF
29 EXISTING WINDOW COVERINGS WITH CORDLESS WINDOW COVERINGS OR WINDOW
30 COVERINGS WITH INACCESSIBLE OPERATIONAL AND INNER CORDS.

31 S 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2014. Effective immediate-
32 ly, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation
33 necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are
34 authorized and directed to be made and completed on or before such
35 effective date.