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

7387

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

May 7, 2015

Introduced by M. of A. ZEBROWSKI -- read once and referred to the Committee on Codes

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing a deaf and hard of hearing outreach program to facilitate communication between hearing-impaired persons and law enforcement personnel

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

Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 837-s to read as follows:

S 837-S. DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING OUTREACH PROGRAM. 1. AS USED IN THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING TERMS SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING MEANINGS:

(A) "DEAF PERSON" SHALL MEAN ANY PERSON WHO, BECAUSE OF HEARING LOSS, IS NOT ABLE TO DISCRIMINATE SPEECH WHEN SPOKEN IN A NORMAL CONVERSATIONAL TONE REGARDLESS OF THE USE OF AMPLIFICATION DEVICES; AND

(B) "HARD OF HEARING PERSON" SHALL MEAN ANY PERSON WHO, BECAUSE OF HEARING LOSS, HAS A DIMINISHED CAPACITY TO DISCRIMINATE SPEECH WHEN SPOKEN IN A NORMAL CONVERSATIONAL TONE.

(C) "VISOR COMMUNICATION CARD" SHALL MEAN SUCH IDENTIFICATION AS ISSUED BY THE DIVISION WHICH IDENTIFIES THE DRIVER AS DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING, AS DEFINED IN THIS SECTION, AND WHICH DETAILS THE APPROPRIATE PROCEDURES FOR ASSISTING A DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING DRIVER DURING A TRAFFIC STOP AS PROMULGATED BY THE DIVISION PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

2. THE DIVISION SHALL DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN VISOR COMMUNICATION CARDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING INDIVIDUALS. ANY PERSON RESIDING IN THIS STATE SHALL, UPON REQUEST, BE ISSUED A VISOR COMMUNICATION OF A DESIGN APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER. APPLICATION FOR SUCH VISOR COMMUNICATION CARD SHALL BE FILED WITH THE DIVISION IN SUCH FORM AND DETAIL AS THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PRESCRIBE.

3. THE DIVISION SHALL MAKE AVAILABLE AN ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THE VISOR COMMUNICATION CARD ON THEIR WEBSITE. THE DIVISION SHALL DISSEM-

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

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INATE FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSTING SUCH ELECTRONIC VERSION TO LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND OTHER STATE AGENCIES WHERE THE PUBLIC MAY OBTAIN INFORMATION REGARDING MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION AND LICENSES.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.