

3738

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

February 17, 2015

Introduced by Sen. MARCHIONE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government

AN ACT to amend the county law, in relation to mutual aid agreements between counties for the provision of services by coroners and medical examiners and establishes certain training requirements

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

1 Section 1. The county law is amended by adding two new sections 672  
2 and 672-a to read as follows:  
3 S 672. MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS FOR CORONERS' SERVICES. 1. TWO OR MORE  
4 COUNTIES ARE AUTHORIZED TO ENTER INTO WRITTEN MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS FOR  
5 THE PROVISION OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY CORONER'S OFFICE OR  
6 OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER IN SUCH COUNTIES. EACH COUNTY SHALL BE  
7 LIABLE FOR ACTS OR OMISSIONS OF ITS EMPLOYEES OR AGENTS WHEN ACTING  
8 PURSUANT TO SUCH AN AGREEMENT IN THE SAME MANNER AND TO THE SAME EXTENT  
9 AS IF SUCH ACTS OR OMISSIONS OCCURRED WITHIN THE COUNTY; AND SUCH  
10 EMPLOYEES OR AGENTS SHALL HAVE IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES FOR THEIR ACTS  
11 OR OMISSIONS WHEN ACTING PURSUANT TO SUCH AN AGREEMENT IN THE SAME  
12 MANNER AND TO THE SAME EXTENT AS IF SUCH ACTS OR OMISSIONS OCCURRED  
13 WITHIN THE COUNTY; EXCEPT THAT SUCH A CONTRACT MAY APPORTION LIABILITY  
14 OTHERWISE BETWEEN OR AMONG THE COUNTIES.  
15 2. NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO ALTER THE LIABILITY  
16 OF ANY COUNTY THAT ENTERS INTO A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO THIS  
17 SECTION TO A THIRD PARTY CLAIMANT FOR ANY CAUSE OF ACTION THAT ARISES  
18 OUT OF SUCH AGREEMENT. THE PROPER VENUE FOR ANY SUCH CAUSE OF ACTION  
19 SHALL BE IN ANY OF THE COUNTIES INVOLVED IN SUCH CAUSE OF ACTION.  
20 S 672-A. TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR CORONERS AND CORONER'S DEPUTIES.  
21 EACH CORONER AND CORONER'S DEPUTY, WHETHER ELECTED OR APPOINTED PURSUANT  
22 TO SECTION FOUR HUNDRED OF THIS CHAPTER, SHALL ATTEND AND SUCCESSFULLY  
23 COMPLETE STATE-APPROVED COURSES IN MEDICAL-LEGAL INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO  
24 THE TAKING OF SUCH OFFICE, OR IF SUCH COURSE CANNOT BE COMPLETED PRIOR

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

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1 TO TAKING OFFICE, THEN NO LATER THAN THIRTY DAYS AFTER TAKING OFFICE.  
2 THE COST OF SUCH COURSES SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CORONER OR  
3 CORONER'S DEPUTY, PROVIDED HOWEVER THAT THE COUNTY MAY, AT ITS  
4 DISCRETION, REIMBURSE THE CORONER OR CORONER'S DEPUTY FOR ALL OR A  
5 PORTION OF THE COST OF SUCH COURSES. SUCH COURSES SHALL BE PRESCRIBED,  
6 CERTIFIED AND CREDITED IN RULES PROMULGATED BY THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL  
7 JUSTICE SERVICES IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH, THE  
8 SUPERINTENDENT OF STATE POLICE, THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION, AND OTHER  
9 INTERESTED PROFESSIONAL GROUPS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE NEW  
10 YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY CORONERS AND MEDICAL EXAMINERS. THE  
11 FREQUENCY AND DURATION OF SUCH COURSES SHALL BE ESTABLISHED BY SUCH  
12 RULES.

13 S 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after  
14 it shall have become a law; provided, however, that the commissioner of  
15 criminal justice services is authorized and directed to promulgate any  
16 rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this act  
17 on its effective date on or before such date.