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

6570

I N S E N A T E

January 27, 2016

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

AN ACT to amend the general municipal law, in relation to requiring counties to have ambulance vehicle and emergency medical technicians trained to transport a person of five hundred pounds or more

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

Section 1. According to the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, nearly two-thirds of U.S. adults are overweight, and one-third are obese. Overweight and obesity are known risk factors for numerous illnesses, including diabetes, heart disease, stroke, hypertension, gallbladder disease, osteoarthritis, breathing problems and some forms of cancer. As a result, overweight people have greater health care needs than the general population.

This state's ambulance services, however, may not be sufficiently prepared to assist morbidly obese New Yorkers. Anecdotal evidence indicates that fire departments have been unable to provide proper emergency medical transport to this population.

S 2. Section 122-b of the general municipal law is amended by adding a new subdivision 6 to read as follows:

6. ANY COUNTY OF THIS STATE SHALL HAVE AT LEAST ONE AMBULANCE VEHICLE LOCATED IN THE COUNTY WITH PROPER EQUIPMENT AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS TRAINED TO TRANSPORT A PERSON OF FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS OR MORE.

S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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