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

1610

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

January 12, 2015

Introduced by M. of A. ENGLEBRIGHT, JAFFEE -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. CAHILL, COLTON, LUPARDO, ORTIZ -- read once and referred to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to providing for a state of New York state's natural environment annual report

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

Section 1. The environmental conservation law is amended by adding a new section 3-0121 to read as follows:

S 3-0121. STATE OF NEW YORK STATE'S NATURAL ENVIRONMENT ANNUAL REPORT.

1. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PREPARE AN ANNUAL REPORT (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS "REPORT") ON THE STATE OF THE STATE'S NATURAL ENVIRONMENT TO BE AVAILABLE TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE STATE BEGINNING IN CALENDAR YEARS FOLLOWING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION.

2. THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO:

A. IDENTIFICATION OF ANY SIGNIFICANT POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE CHANGES TO THE QUALITY OF THE STATE'S NATURAL ENVIRONMENT INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, EFFECTS TO AIR, WATER, SOIL, WETLANDS, AND OTHER NATURAL COMMUNITIES AND WILDLIFE, AND THE CAUSES UNDERLYING SUCH CHANGES; AND

B. SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMMATIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT AND AREAS IN WHICH SIGNIFICANT ISSUES AND PROBLEMS REMAIN UNRESOLVED OR UNADDRESSED, AND PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RESOLVING AND ADDRESSING SUCH ISSUES.

3. THE COMMISSIONER MAY USE INFORMATION AND MATERIAL CONTAINED IN OTHER REPORTS REQUIRED FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

4. TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT FEASIBLE, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL BE ENTITLED TO REQUEST AND RECEIVE DATA FROM ANY STATE AGENCY TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

5. SUCH REPORT SHALL BE ANNUALLY SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR, LEGISLATURE AND PUBLIC ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER THIRTY-FIRST. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE THE REPORT AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC FREE OF CHARGE AND SUCH REPORT SHALL BE POSTED ON THE DEPARTMENT'S INTERNET WEBSITE.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

LBD06002-01-5