

3289

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

January 22, 2015

Introduced by M. of A. ENGLEBRIGHT, COLTON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to regulation of landfill gas control flares

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

- 1 Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as  
2 the "raptor protection act".  
3 S 2. Legislative intent. The legislature hereby finds that landfills  
4 are frequently a source of food for hawks, falcons, owls and other  
5 raptors. Landfills often utilize landfill gas control flares that  
6 consist of tall pipes with automatic igniters that burn the methane gas.  
7 Raptors will use these devices as perches or fly over the flares; when  
8 they ignite, raptors will suffer severe burns, melted beaks, talons or  
9 feathers, or even death. Injured birds have been found throughout the  
10 United States.  
11 S 3. The environmental conservation law is amended by adding a new  
12 section 27-0709 to read as follows:  
13 S 27-0709. REGULATION OF LANDFILL GAS CONTROL FLARES.  
14 1. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "LANDFILL" MEANS A SOLID WASTE  
15 DISPOSAL FACILITY AT WHICH SOLID WASTE, OR ITS RESIDUE AFTER TREATMENT,  
16 IS INTENTIONALLY PLACED AND AT WHICH WASTE SHALL REMAIN.  
17 2. EVERY LANDFILL THAT UTILIZES LANDFILL GAS CONTROL FLARES TO BURN  
18 METHANE GAS SHALL BE REQUIRED TO INSTALL SAFER AND TALLER PERCHES FOR  
19 RAPTORS AND ATTACH SPIKES TO ALL LANDFILL GAS CONTROL FLARES.  
20 3. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COOPERATE AND CONSULT WITH MANUFACTURERS OF  
21 LANDFILL GAS CONTROL FLARES TO INCORPORATE BIRD DETERRENCE INTO THE  
22 DESIGN OF SUCH FLARES.  
23 S 4. This act shall take effect immediately, except that subdivision 2  
24 of section 27-0709 of the environmental conservation law, as added by  
25 section three of this act, shall take effect on the one hundred eight-  
26 ieth day after such effective date.

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

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