

5348

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

February 18, 2015

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Introduced by M. of A. CUSICK -- read once and referred to the Committee  
on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to statewide disaster  
preparedness plan and emergency response

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

1     Section 1. Legislative findings and intent. The legislature hereby  
2 finds and declares that due to the extreme weather patterns that the  
3 state of New York has experienced in recent years, there is a need for  
4 improvement of the statewide preparedness plan to better equip locali-  
5 ties in assisting citizens. The disaster preparedness commission shall  
6 develop a comprehensive disaster defense plan that maps out the course  
7 of action for all state and local authorities, departments, and agencies  
8 in the event that the state experiences a disaster that affects more  
9 than one county in the state. The public needs a more readily available  
10 and comprehensive set of instructions for the proper course of action to  
11 be taken in the event of emergencies and disasters.

12     S 2. Subdivision 3 of section 22 of the executive law is amended by  
13 adding a new paragraph d to read as follows:

14     D. PERIODIC PLAN REVISION. THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE PLANS SHALL TAKE  
15 INTO CONSIDERATION THE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY ANY APPROPRI-  
16 ATE TASK FORCE OR COMMISSION FORMED AS A RESULT OR IN RESPONSE TO A  
17 SPECIFIC INCIDENT INVOLVING A THREAT, DISASTER OR EMERGENCY. THE  
18 COMMISSION SHALL WORK WITH THE GOVERNOR, THE LEGISLATURE, COUNTY, AND  
19 MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS TO ENSURE THAT THE PLAN IS SENSITIVE TO THE NEEDS OF  
20 THE INDIVIDUAL LOCALITY OR AREA OF THE STATE.

21     S 3. Subparagraphs 6 and 16 of paragraph b of subdivision 3 of section  
22 22 of the executive law, as amended by section 3 of part B of chapter 56  
23 of the laws of 2010, are amended and a new paragraph 17 is added to read  
24 as follows:

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

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1 (6) a plan for coordinated evacuation procedures, including the estab-  
2 lishment of temporary housing, THE LOCATION OF STRATEGICALLY PLACED  
3 STOCKPILES OF FOOD, WATER AND OTHER NECESSARY EMERGENCY MATERIALS, and  
4 other necessary facilities;

5 (16) utilization and coordination of programs to assist individuals  
6 with household pets and service animals following a disaster, with  
7 particular attention to means of evacuation, shelter and transportation  
8 options[.]; AND

9 (17) A CENTRALIZED DISSEMINATION OF THE PROCEDURES, RESOURCES AND  
10 INFORMATION SET FORTH IN THIS PARAGRAPH TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND OTHER  
11 RESPONSE ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING NOT-FOR-PROFIT GROUPS PARTICIPATING IN  
12 RELIEF AND RECOVERY EFFORTS.

13 S 4. Paragraphs (t) and (u) of subdivision 2 of section 709 of the  
14 executive law, paragraph (t) as added by section 14 and paragraph (u) as  
15 added by section 22 of part B of chapter 56 of the laws of 2010, are  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (t) develop, maintain, and deploy state, regional and local all-hazard  
18 incident management teams[.]; AND

19 (u) HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS SUBSEQUENT TO ANY SIGNIFICANT EMERGENCY OR  
20 DISASTER AFFECTING ANY AREA OF THE STATE AND REPORT ON AND MAKE RECOM-  
21 MENDATIONS TO THE STATE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS COMMISSION AS TO ADDI-  
22 TIONAL ACTIONS THAT SHOULD BE TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO SPECIFIC EMERGENCY  
23 SITUATIONS.

24 2-A. Notwithstanding article six-C of this chapter, or any other  
25 provision of law to the contrary, the division of homeland security and  
26 emergency services shall establish best practices regarding training and  
27 education for firefighters and first responders which shall include but  
28 not be limited to: minimum basic training for firefighters and first  
29 responders; in-service training and continuing education; and special-  
30 ized training as it may apply to the specific duties of a category of  
31 emergency personnel.

32 S 5. This act shall take effect immediately.