

7937

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

June 1, 2015

Introduced by M. of A. ABBATE -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. GOLDFED-
ER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Labor

AN ACT to amend the labor law, in relation to requiring employers who
employ one or more police officers to provide ballistic soft-body
armor vests to New York city police officers

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

1 Section 1. Paragraph d of subdivision 4 of section 27-a of the labor
2 law is relettered paragraph e and a new paragraph d is added to read as
3 follows:
4 D. ANY EMPLOYER LOCATED IN A CITY WITH A POPULATION OF OVER ONE
5 MILLION AND THAT EMPLOYS ONE OR MORE POLICE OFFICERS, AS DEFINED BY
6 SUBDIVISION THIRTY-FOUR OF SECTION 1.20 OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE LAW,
7 SHALL PROVIDE, AT THE EXPENSE OF THE EMPLOYER, A BALLISTIC SOFT-BODY
8 ARMOR VEST TO EACH POLICE OFFICER ON OR AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS
9 PARAGRAPH AND SHALL REPLACE EACH POLICE OFFICER'S BALLISTIC SOFT-BODY
10 ARMOR VEST AS REQUIRED BY THIS PARAGRAPH OR MORE STRINGENT REGULATIONS
11 PROMULGATED BY THE COMMISSIONER IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DIVISION OF
12 CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES PURSUANT TO SECTION EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTY-SEV-
13 EN-D OF THE EXECUTIVE LAW. UNLESS EXPRESSLY AGREED PURSUANT TO A COLLEC-
14 TIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT, AN EMPLOYER SHALL NOT REQUIRE A POLICE OFFI-
15 CER TO PURCHASE A BALLISTIC SOFT-BODY ARMOR VEST OUT OF A UNIFORM
16 ALLOWANCE PROVIDED BY THE EMPLOYER OR ANY OTHER AMOUNT PAID BY THE
17 EMPLOYER TO A POLICE OFFICER FOR THE PURPOSE OF PURCHASING UNIFORMS
18 AND/OR EQUIPMENT.
19 (I) AS USED IN THIS PARAGRAPH, "BALLISTIC SOFT-BODY ARMOR VEST" SHALL
20 MEAN A CUSTOM-FITTED, CONCEALABLE, SOFT-BODY ARMOR OR BULLETPROOF VEST
21 THAT MEETS OR EXCEEDS THE STANDARDS OF VESTS COMMONLY KNOWN OR CLASSI-
22 FIED AS TYPE III-A WITH SIDE AND EXTENDED PROTECTION, OR ANY OTHER
23 CUSTOM-FITTED, CONCEALABLE, SOFT-BODY ARMOR VEST THAT MAY BE DEVELOPED,
24 TESTED, AND APPROVED WHICH EXCEEDS THE LEVEL OF PROTECTION OF THOSE

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

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1 VESTS COMMONLY KNOWN OR CLASSIFIED AS TYPE III-A WITH SIDE AND EXTENDED
2 PROTECTION IN SUCH STANDARD CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS SET FORTH BY THE
3 NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE AND FOUND TO MEET OR EXCEED (A) THE
4 REQUIREMENTS OF NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE STANDARDS 0101.06 AND/OR
5 THE HIGHEST INDUSTRY STANDARD THEN IN EFFECT AT THE TIME OR (B) ANY
6 OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR VESTS SET FORTH IN SUBSEQUENT REVISIONS THEREOF
7 WHICH OTHERWISE COMPLY WITH MORE STRINGENT REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN
8 REGULATIONS PROMULGATED BY THE COMMISSIONER. NOTHING IN THIS SECTION
9 SHALL PROHIBIT AN EMPLOYER FROM PROVIDING POLICE OFFICERS UNDER ITS
10 EMPLOY BALLISTIC SOFT-BODY ARMOR VESTS THAT EXCEED THE MINIMUM REQUIRE-
11 MENTS SET FORTH IN THIS SUBPARAGRAPH OR REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE
12 COMMISSIONER.

13 (II) ALL BALLISTIC SOFT-BODY ARMOR VESTS PROVIDED TO POLICE OFFICERS
14 UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH ARE REQUIRED TO, AT A MINIMUM, BE REPLACED AT THE
15 EXPENSE OF THE EMPLOYER (A) ON OR BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE MANUFAC-
16 Turer's WARRANTY PERIOD BUT NOT LATER THAN FIVE YEARS AFTER THE DATE OR
17 PURCHASE BY THE EMPLOYER; (B) AFTER ANY BALLISTIC SOFT-BODY ARMOR VEST
18 SUSTAINS A HIT FROM A FIREARM OR PROJECTILE; (C) AFTER A BALLISTIC
19 SOFT-ARMOR VEST IS DAMAGED OR DESTROYED DUE TO ITS USE IN SERVICE, WEAR,
20 OR ANY OTHER REASON THAT WOULD AFFECT THE PROTECTIVE QUALITIES OF THE
21 BALLISTIC SOFT-BODY ARMOR VEST NECESSITATING ITS REMOVAL FROM SERVICE;
22 OR (D) WHEN, FOR ANY REASON, THE VEST DOES NOT PROPERLY FIT OR OTHERWISE
23 DOES NOT PROVIDE THE NECESSARY PROTECTION FOR THE INDIVIDUAL POLICE
24 OFFICER.

25 (III) NOTWITHSTANDING ANYTHING TO THE CONTRARY, TO OFFSET THE COST IN
26 PROVIDING OR REPLACING BALLISTIC SOFT-BODY ARMOR VESTS AS REQUIRED BY
27 THIS PARAGRAPH, AN EMPLOYER MAY APPLY FOR REIMBURSEMENT PURSUANT TO
28 SECTION EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTY-SEVEN-D OF THE EXECUTIVE LAW OR ANY FEDERAL
29 OR STATE PROGRAM THEN IN EFFECT FOR THE REIMBURSEMENT OR REPLACEMENT OF
30 BALLISTIC SOFT-BODY ARMOR VESTS FOR POLICE OFFICERS WITHIN THE STATE.

31 S 2. The act shall take effect immediately.