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

3799

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

February 17, 2015

Introduced by Sen. SANDERS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to requiring the division of homeland security and emergency services to provide recommendations on the implementation of tornado warning systems in the state

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

Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 711-b to read as follows:

S 711-B. ANALYZE AND REPORT ON THE FEASIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTING TORNADO WARNING SYSTEMS. 1. THE DIVISION SHALL ANALYZE AND REPORT ON THE FEASIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTING TORNADO WARNING SYSTEMS, INCLUDING THE INSTALLATION OF TORNADO SIRENS IN MUNICIPALITIES ACROSS THE STATE. SUCH EXAMINATION SHALL INCLUDE DETERMINING WHETHER CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES SHOULD INSTALL TORNADO SIRENS, THE POTENTIAL PLACEMENT OF TORNADO SIRENS AND WHETHER THEY SHOULD BE LOCATED NEAR SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS, SPORTS FACILITIES, COLLEGES OR OTHER POPULATED AREAS.

2. THE DIVISION SHALL ANALYZE AND REPORT ON THE USE OF FIREHOUSE SIRENS AS POSSIBLE NOTIFICATION TO THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY OF AN IMPENDING TORNADO AND THE TYPE OF PUBLIC EDUCATION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT SUCH PROGRAM.

3. THE DIVISION SHALL ALSO RECOMMEND OTHER TECHNOLOGIES TO BE USED TO ISSUE TORNADO WARNINGS SUCH AS TEXT MESSAGES TO CELL PHONES AND THE SYSTEMS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT AN EMERGENCY TEXT MESSAGE SYSTEM.

4. THE RECOMMENDATIONS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE A COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS OF IMPLEMENTING A TORNADO WARNING SYSTEM AND POSSIBLE FUNDING MECHANISMS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A TORNADO WARNING SYSTEM.

5. THE DIVISION SHALL ISSUE THE REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE ON OR BEFORE MARCH FIRST, TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN.

S 2. 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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