

STATE OF NEW YORK

8559

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

July 10, 2017

Introduced by M. of A. KAVANAGH, DINOWITZ, JAFFEE, LIFTON, ORTIZ, PRETLOW, ZEBROWSKI, COLTON, DenDEKKER, GLICK, HOOPER, LENTOL, PERRY, RIVERA, CAHILL, AUBRY, ROSENTHAL, COOK, GUNTHER -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. GALEF, GOTTFRIED, HEVESI, JENNE, LUPARDO, MAGEE, PEOPLES-STOKES, RAIA, RAMOS, THIELE, TITONE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to enacting the "public benefits for professional facilities act"

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 "public benefits for professional facilities act".

3 § 2. Article 9 of the public authorities law is amended by adding a
4 new title 3-B to read as follows:

TITLE 3-B

PUBLIC BENEFITS FOR PROFESSIONAL FACILITIES

Section 2860. Professional facilities.

8 § 2860. Professional facilities. 1. No later than ninety days after
9 the effective date of this subdivision, the Empire state development
10 corporation shall publish on its website and provide to the legislature
11 an accounting of all benefits that any state or local authority has
12 granted or obligated itself to grant for the purpose of construction,
13 reconstruction, repair or rehabilitation of a professional sports facil-
14 ity. Such accounting shall include all such benefits granted or obli-
15 gated to be granted at any time on or after January first, two thousand
16 eleven. Thereafter, the Empire state development corporation shall
17 publish on its website and provide to the legislature an update of such
18 accounting by February fifteenth of each year, covering the period
19 ending December thirty-first of the preceding year. Any state or local
20 authority that has granted or obligated itself to grant any such benefit
21 shall report the terms of such benefit to the Empire state development

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

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1 corporation no later than the earlier of the date the benefit is granted
2 or the date the benefit is obligated to be granted.

3 2. For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have
4 the following meanings:

5 (a) "Benefit" shall mean any direct or indirect grant of funds, tax
6 reductions, tax preferences, subsidies, payments in lieu of any tax or
7 tax obligation, or any other form of public support.

8 (b) "Affordable" shall mean within the economic ability of persons
9 whose income is at or below sixty percent of the area median income for
10 a four-person household to purchase tickets without economic hardship.

11 (c) "Affordable ticket agreement" shall mean a binding agreement among
12 the state or local authority granting a benefit, the recipient of such
13 benefit, and any other party necessary to give such agreement effect,
14 the terms of which are publicly disclosed not less than thirty days
15 before the state or local authority grants any benefit or undertakes any
16 obligation to grant such benefit. Such agreement shall include
17 provisions to prevent resale of tickets subject to the agreement at
18 prices above face value.

19 3. Any state or local authority that grants any benefit, for the
20 purpose of construction, reconstruction, repair or rehabilitation of a
21 professional sports facility, shall, as a condition of such benefit,
22 require that at least seven percent of all tickets for each event be
23 subject to an affordable ticket agreement. Furthermore, such benefit
24 shall be conditioned upon a facility policy that limits ticket price
25 increases to no more than two percent annually for the next ten years,
26 if at any time in the last three years season or individual tickets have
27 been offered for sale with cumulative price increases of more than thir-
28 ty percent.

29 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.