

# STATE OF NEW YORK

3615

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

January 25, 2017

Introduced by Sen. PARKER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government

AN ACT to amend the general municipal law and the public health law, in relation to the training of police officers and firefighters

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The general municipal law is amended by adding a new  
2 section 209-ff to read as follows:

3 § 209-ff. Training of police officers and firefighters. 1. (a) The  
4 commissioner of the New York state division of criminal justice  
5 services, in consultation with the commissioner of the office for people  
6 with developmental disabilities and disability advocacy groups, shall  
7 review the training course entitled "Persons with Disabilities," Part  
8 Five Section E of the Basic Course for Police Officers and modify it to  
9 include instruction on other developmental disabilities as well. The  
10 training should include instruction on cerebral palsy, epilepsy,  
11 emotional disturbance, traumatic brain injury, persons who are hearing-  
12 impaired, and any other disability deemed necessary by the commission-  
13 ers. The training shall be designed to educate police officers on appro-  
14 priate recognition and response techniques for handling emergency  
15 situations involving individuals with developmental disabilities or  
16 people who are hearing-impaired. The curriculum should also include  
17 instruction on appropriate interview and interrogation techniques. Addi-  
18 tional attention should be placed upon behaviors associated with indi-  
19 viduals with autism and other neurological and behaviorally based disor-  
20 ders. This review and modification shall be implemented within twelve  
21 months of the effective date of this section.

22 (b) Notwithstanding any state or local law, prior to being appointed  
23 to permanent status as a local police officer in a law enforcement unit,  
24 an individual shall be required to complete the training course entitled  
25 "Persons with Disabilities." Every local police officer appointed prior

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

LBD07415-01-7

1 to the effective date of this section shall, within thirty-six months of  
2 such effective date, satisfactorily complete the training developed  
3 under paragraph (a) of this subdivision.

4 2. (a) The state fire administrator of the office of fire prevention  
5 and control, in consultation with the commissioner of the office for  
6 people with developmental disabilities and disability advocacy groups,  
7 shall adapt the training developed by the commissioner of the New York  
8 state division of criminal justice services under paragraph (a) of  
9 subdivision one of this section to be utilized for training firefight-  
10 ers. The curriculum shall be incorporated into existing requirements for  
11 training, re-certification and continuing education of firefighters,  
12 within sixteen months of the effective date of this section.

13 (b) Notwithstanding any state or local law, all firefighters, volun-  
14 teer or paid, permanent or non-permanent, and all individuals engaged in  
15 fire suppression, firefighting, or fire rescue shall be required to  
16 satisfactorily complete the training developed under paragraph (a) of  
17 subdivision one of this section, as part of existing continuing educa-  
18 tion requirements, at least once every thirty-six months.

19 § 2. The public health law is amended by adding a new section 3054 to  
20 read as follows:

21 § 3054. Training of emergency responders. 1. The director of the New  
22 York state health department bureau of emergency medical services, in  
23 consultation with the commissioner of the office for people with devel-  
24 opmental disabilities and disability advocacy groups, shall adapt the  
25 training developed by the commissioner of the New York state division of  
26 criminal justice services pursuant to paragraph (a) of subdivision one  
27 of section two hundred nine-ff of the general municipal law to be  
28 utilized for training emergency responders. The curriculum shall be  
29 incorporated into existing requirements for training, re-certification  
30 and continuing education of emergency responders, within eighteen months  
31 of the effective date of this section.

32 2. Prior to certification by the New York state health department  
33 bureau of emergency medical services, every advanced emergency medical  
34 technician, emergency medical technician or certified first responder,  
35 as defined in section three thousand one of this chapter, shall be  
36 required to satisfactorily complete the training developed under subdivi-  
37 vision one of this section.

38 3. Prior to re-certification by the New York state health department  
39 bureau of emergency medical services, every advanced emergency medical  
40 technician, emergency medical technician or certified first responder,  
41 as defined in section three thousand one of this chapter, shall be  
42 required to satisfactorily complete the training developed under subdivi-  
43 vision one of this section. The training shall be completed as part of a  
44 state approved refresher course or continuing education course. The  
45 training shall be substantially similar, in substance and duration, to  
46 the training mandated in paragraph (a) of subdivision one of section two  
47 hundred nine-ff of the general municipal law. No advanced emergency  
48 medical technician, emergency medical technician or certified first  
49 responder, as defined in section three thousand one of this chapter,  
50 shall be exempt from this requirement for any reason, certification or  
51 test score.

52 § 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after  
53 it shall have become a law.