STATE OF NEW YORK

5354

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 22, 2017

Introduced by Sen. MARCHIONE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Agriculture

AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law, in relation to requiring the promulgation and implementation of standards for the designation of therapy dog

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

Section 1. The agriculture and markets law is amended by adding a new section 125 to read as follows:

§ 125. Therapy dogs. (a) The commissioner shall promulgate and implement standards for the certification of therapy dogs, as such term is defined in subdivision twenty-six of section one hundred eight of this article. Such standards shall include, but not limited to, training, evaluation, and certification procedures for the designation of a dog as a "therapy dog". The commissioner may consider industry standards in the establishment of state standards as required by this section.

(b) The commissioner shall establish the standards required by subdivision (a) of this section no later than October first, two thousand seventeen.

§ 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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