IN ASSEMBLY

July 10, 2020

Introduced by COMMITTEE ON RULES -- (at request of M. of A. Simon, Lentol) -- read once and referred to the Committee on Judiciary

AN ACT in relation to attorneys graduating from law school or taking the bar exam during the COVID-19 state disaster emergency

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

Section 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, any person who has graduated or will graduate from an American Bar Association accredited law school or who would otherwise be eligible to take the New York state bar examination during the period of time encompassed by the COVID-19 state disaster emergency, as declared pursuant to executive order number 202 of 2020, and any extensions, amendments or modifications thereto, has demonstrated compliance with section 520.9 of the rules of the court of appeals, and has satisfied the requirements for good moral character and general fitness requisite for an attorney- and counselor-at-law as required by section 90 of the judiciary law and who intends to primarily practice law in the state of New York shall be admitted to practice in all the courts of record of the state.

§ 2. Nothing contained in this act shall be construed as rescinding any rules promulgated or waivers thereof by the court of appeals pertaining to admission to practice as an attorney- and counselor-at-law that are not inconsistent with this act.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to any individual whose application for admission to the New York state bar is pending on the date the COVID-19 state disaster emergency ends.

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