

STATE OF NEW YORK

4248

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 5, 2019

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

AN ACT to amend the penal law, in relation to posting private property

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision 5 of section 140.00 of the penal law, as
2 amended by chapter 698 of the laws of 1979, is amended to read as
3 follows:

4 5. "Enter or remain unlawfully." (a) A person "enters or remains
5 unlawfully" in or upon premises when he is not licensed or privileged to
6 do so. A person who, regardless of his intent, enters or remains in or
7 upon premises which are at the time open to the public does so with
8 license and privilege unless he defies a lawful order not to enter or
9 remain, personally communicated to him by the owner of such premises or
10 other authorized person. A license or privilege to enter or remain in a
11 building which is only partly open to the public is not a license or
12 privilege to enter or remain in that part of the building which is not
13 open to the public. A person who enters or remains upon unimproved and
14 apparently unused land, which is neither fenced nor otherwise enclosed
15 in a manner designed to exclude intruders, does so with license and
16 privilege unless notice against trespass is personally communicated to
17 him by the owner of such land or other authorized person, or unless such
18 notice is given by posting in a conspicuous manner. A person who enters
19 or remains in or about a school building without written permission from
20 someone authorized to issue such permission or without a legitimate
21 reason which includes a relationship involving custody of or responsi-
22 bility for a pupil or student enrolled in the school or without legiti-
23 mate business or a purpose relating to the operation of the school does
24 so without license and privilege.

25 (b) An owner or lessee of any real property may post such property by
26 placing identifying purple marks on trees or posts around the area to be

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

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1 posted. Each purple mark shall be: (i) a vertical line of at least eight
2 inches in length and the bottom of the mark shall be no less than three
3 feet nor more than five feet high. Such marks shall be placed no more
4 than one hundred feet apart and shall be readily visible to any person
5 approaching the property; or (ii) a post capped or otherwise marked on
6 at least its top two inches. The bottom of the cap or mark shall be not
7 less than three feet but not more than five feet six inches high. Posts
8 so marked shall be placed not more than thirty-six feet apart and shall
9 be readily visible to any person approaching the property. Prior to
10 applying a cap or mark which is visible from both sides of a fence
11 shared by different property owners or lessees, all such owners or
12 lessees shall concur in the decision to post their own property. Nothing
13 in this subdivision shall be construed to authorize the owner or lessee
14 of any real property to place any purple marks on any tree or post or to
15 install any post or fence if doing so would violate any applicable law,
16 rule, ordinance, order, covenant, bylaw, declaration, regulation,
17 restriction, contract, or instrument.

18 § 2. The department of agriculture and markets shall conduct a public
19 information campaign concerning the provisions of this act. Such depart-
20 ment may prepare a brochure or disseminate the information through the
21 agency website. Such information shall include the requirements set
22 forth in paragraph (b) of subdivision 5 of section 140.00 of the penal
23 law, including information regarding the size requirements of the mark-
24 ings as well as the manner in which the markings shall be displayed.

25 § 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after
26 it shall have become a law.