AN ACT to amend the civil service law, in relation to prohibiting public employers from retaliating against employees for absences related to COVID-19

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

Section 1. Subdivision 2 of section 75-b of the civil service law is amended by adding a new paragraph (b) to read as follows:

(b) A public employer shall not dismiss or take other disciplinary or other adverse personnel action against a public employee regarding the employee's employment, including designating the employee as chronically absent, because the employee uses sick leave or compensatory time to quarantine, convalesce, seek medical treatment, or engage in other activities related to a COVID-19 diagnosis or contact.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall be deemed to have been in full force and effect on and after January 1, 2020.