STATE OF NEW YORK

8322

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

October 20, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. GONZALEZ-ROJAS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the executive law and the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring emergency alerts to be issued in the ten most commonly spoken languages in the area covered by such emergency alert

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

Section 1. Subparagraph 3 of paragraph b of subdivision 3 of section 22 of the executive law, as amended by section 3 of part B of chapter 56 of the laws of 2010, is amended to read as follows:

(3) a system for warning populations who are or may be endangered**. Any emergency alert issued through e-mail, text, phone, social media platform, or internet-based feed shall be issued in no fewer than the ten most commonly spoken languages within the area covered by such emergency alert. Such notifications shall be separated into distinct messages in separate feeds for each language. A general version of each notification may be used when a real-time translation is unavailable, provided that priority shall be placed upon making notifications available with the greatest specificity possible**;

§ 2. Section 30-115 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as added by local law number 31 of the city of New York for the year 2017, is amended to read as follows:

§ 30-115 Emergency notifications. a. Any emergency alert originated by a city office or city agency that is issued through a commercial mobile service alert system established pursuant to section 1201 of title 47 of the United States code shall, to the extent practicable and to the extent permissible under regulations enacted pursuant to such section, be issued in no fewer than the [~~two~~] **ten** most commonly spoken languages within the area covered by the emergency alert as determined by the commissioner in consultation with the department of city planning,

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

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provided that this subdivision does not require the issuance of an emergency alert in a language if exigent circumstances prohibit the issuance of an alert in such language.

b. Any emergency notification system operated and controlled by the office of emergency management for the purposes of aggregating information obtained from other offices or agencies to inform the public about emergencies or disruptive events through e-mail, text, phone, social media platform, or internet-based feed shall offer each notification in no fewer than the [~~seven~~] ten most commonly spoken languages within the city as determined by the commissioner in consultation with the department of city planning, provided that this requirement shall not delay or prohibit the immediate issuance of notifications in any individual language. Notifications shall be separated into distinct messages in separate feeds for each language. A general version of each notification may be used when a real-time translation is unavailable, provided that priority shall be placed upon making notifications available with the greatest specificity possible. Any dissemination limitation applicable to an English language notification may be applied to its equivalent notification in another language. If no potential recipient is registered for a specific language, then a notification need not be disseminated in that language.

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.