

STATE OF NEW YORK

5093

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 23, 2021

Introduced by Sen. KENNEDY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Housing, Construction and Community Development

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to standards for fire hydrant systems; and providing for the repeal of certain provisions upon expiration thereof

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

1 Section 1. Section 378 of the executive law is amended by adding two
2 new subdivisions 19 and 20 to read as follows:

3 19. a. Standards for fire hydrant systems shall require:

4 (i) periodic tests as required by the code enforcement official,
5 provided that each hydrant be tested for proper functionality a minimum
6 of once per year; and

7 (ii) records of inspections performed on each hydrant be maintained
8 for a period of at least five years by the local authority responsible
9 for conducting such inspections.

10 b. For the purposes of this section, a fire hydrant system shall be
11 defined as a system of pipes and valves situated and maintained for
12 firefighting purposes delivering a water supply with sufficient pressure
13 and flow with a connection point by which firefighters can access it
14 without restriction as to the use for that purpose. The location is such
15 that it is accessible for immediate use of the fire authority at all
16 times.

17 20. The department of public service shall transmit a request for
18 information to each water-works corporation serving fifty thousand or
19 more water users, water authority within the state, and municipal public
20 works department requesting any and all information related to fire
21 hydrant maintenance, servicing, testing, and replacement.

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

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1 a. The department of public service shall seek from each water-works
2 corporation serving fifty thousand or more water users, water authority,
3 and municipal public works department the following information:

4 (i) all invoices associated with maintenance, servicing, inspection,
5 or repair of fire hydrants for a period of at least one year; and

6 (ii) all records associated with the maintenance, servicing,
7 inspection, or repair of fire hydrants for a period of at least one
8 year.

9 b. Each water-works corporation serving fifty thousand or more water
10 users, water authority, or municipal public works department that
11 receives a request for information from the department of public service
12 pursuant to this subdivision shall cooperate fully with such department,
13 provide such information in a timely manner, and comply with any other
14 requests and requirements deemed appropriate by such department.

15 c. The department of public service shall issue a report on or before
16 July first, two thousand twenty-two on information collected from each
17 water authority and public works department regarding fire hydrant main-
18 tenance, servicing, inspection, or repair. Such a report shall include a
19 comprehensive analysis of the frequency of each authority's or public
20 works department's maintenance and inspection of fire hydrants. The
21 department of public service shall include any recommendations that
22 would achieve a more uniform period of hydrant maintenance and
23 inspection. Such department shall include in the report the identity of
24 any water-works corporation serving fifty thousand or more water users,
25 water authority, or municipal public works department that received a
26 request for information from the department but did not provide informa-
27 tion in a timely or complete manner. If a water-works corporation serv-
28 ing fifty thousand or more water users, water authority, or municipal
29 public works department is not responsible for maintaining and inspect-
30 ing fire hydrants, a statement indicating no responsibility to inspect
31 shall be transmitted to the department of public service in response to
32 any request for information. Such department shall post a copy of the
33 full report to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, the
34 speaker of the assembly, and each member of the legislature.

35 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately; provided that the
36 provisions of subdivision 20 of section 378 of the executive law, as
37 added by section one of this act, shall expire and be deemed repealed on
38 the one hundred twentieth day after the department of public service has
39 submitted its completed report provided, further, that the department of
40 public service shall notify the legislative bill drafting commission
41 upon the occurrence of the submission of the completed report in order
42 that the commission may maintain an accurate and timely effective data
43 base of the official text of the laws of the state of New York in furth-
44 erance of effectuating the provisions of section 44 of the legislative
45 law and section 70-b of the public officers law.