STATE OF NEW YORK

6954

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

May 9, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. MITAYNES -- read once and referred to the Committee on Codes

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to prohibiting the use of robots by police agencies

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

Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 837-x to read as follows:

§ 837-x. Use of robots prohibited. 1. Definitions. As used in this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(a) "Robot" means an artificial object or system that senses, processes and acts, to at least some degree, and is operated either autonomously by computers or by an individual remotely;

(b) "Weapon" means a device designed to inflict physical injury, including nonlethal injury;

(c) "Surveillance" means any observation or monitoring of civilians.

2. No police agency shall authorize the use, attempted use or threatened use of a robot armed with any weapon.

3. No police agency shall authorize the use, attempted use or threatened use of a robot in any manner that can potentially cause injury, regardless of whether or not the robot is armed with a weapon.

4. No police agency shall authorize the use, attempted use or threatened use of a robot for surveillance purposes.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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