STATE OF NEW YORK

6980

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

May 9, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. WOERNER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Consumer Affairs and Protection

AN ACT to amend the general business law, in relation to prohibiting publishers from limiting the number of copies of e-books available at public libraries

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

Section 1. The general business law is amended by adding a new section 338 to read as follows:

§ 338. E-books. 1. For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

a. "E-book" shall mean a book published in or converted to digital format for display on a computer screen or handheld electronic device.

b. "Public library" shall mean a library, other than a professional, technical or public school library, established for free public purposes by official action of a municipality or district or the legislature, where the whole interests belong to the public, or any other library maintained for the benefit and free use on equal terms of all the people of the community in which such library is located.

2. No person, partnership, limited partnership, unincorporated joint-stock association, or corporation publishing a book for sale in New York state in an e-book format shall, in any way, limit the number of copies of such e-book which may be made available for rental at any public library in New York state.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall have become a law.

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

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