

# STATE OF NEW YORK

9135

## IN ASSEMBLY

February 8, 2024

Introduced by M. of A. McMAHON, STECK -- read once and referred to the  
Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the public officers law, in relation to requiring  
members of a public body to complete a minimum level of training on  
the state's open meetings law and freedom of information law

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

1 Section 1. The public officers law is amended by adding a new section  
2 79-a to read as follows:

3 § 79-a. Public officers required training. Each local officer, as  
4 defined by article one of this chapter, shall complete no less than two  
5 hours of training annually, on the requirements of the open meetings  
6 law, as established by article seven of this chapter, and the freedom of  
7 information law, as established by article six of this chapter. All  
8 village clerks, town clerks, city clerks, legislative clerks to a county  
9 legislature or board of supervisors, village attorneys, town attorneys,  
10 city attorneys, county attorneys or other designated attorneys for a  
11 public body, and all designated records access officers and FOIL appeal  
12 officers shall be required to complete such training. Such training  
13 shall be approved by the committee on open government established under  
14 section one hundred nine of this chapter and may include training  
15 provided by a state agency, statewide municipal association, non-profit  
16 organization, college, or any other similar entity the committee deems  
17 necessary. Such training may be provided in a variety of formats,  
18 including but not limited to, electronic media, distance learning or  
19 traditional classroom training. On or before December thirty-first of  
20 each year, those required to complete such training shall file with  
21 their designated records access officer proof of their attendance at any  
22 such training programs required by this section.

23 § 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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