STATE OF NEW YORK

9835

IN ASSEMBLY

April 11, 2024

Introduced by M. of A. SEPTIMO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to requiring fifteen-foot buffer zones around abortion clinics

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

Section 1. The public health law is amended by adding a new section 2599-bbb to read as follows:

§ 2599-bbb. Buffer zones. 1. Every reproductive health care facility offering abortion care shall maintain a fifteen-foot buffer zone around any entrance to such clinic to allow patients to enter such clinics without harassment.

2. For the purposes of this section, "harassment" shall mean:

(a) To knowingly physically obstruct or block another person from entering into or exiting from the premises of a reproductive health care facility by physically striking, shoving, restraining, grabbing, or otherwise subjecting a person to unwanted physical contact, or attempting to do the same;

(b) To knowingly obstruct or block the premises of a reproductive health care facility, so as to impede access to or from the facility, or to attempt to do the same;

(c) To follow another person within fifteen feet of the premises of a reproductive health care facility;

(d) To engage in a course of conduct or repeatedly commit acts within fifteen feet of the premises of a reproductive health care facility when such behavior places another person in reasonable fear of physical harm, or to attempt to do the same;

(e) To physically damage a reproductive health care facility so as to interfere with its operation, or to attempt to do the same; or

(f) To knowingly interfere with the operation of a reproductive health care facility, or to attempt to do the same, by activities that include, but are not limited to, interfering with, or attempting to interfere with (i) medical procedures being performed at such facility or (ii) the delivery of goods to such facility.

§ 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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