STATE OF NEW YORK

2946--A

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 26, 2023

Introduced by Sen. KAVANAGH -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Consumer Protection -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the general business law, in relation to requiring certain businesses to notify past and present employees of eligibility for the September eleventh victim compensation fund and the World Trade Center health program

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

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "9/11 notice act".

§ 2. The general business law is amended by adding a new section 399-rr to read as follows:

§ 399-rr. September eleventh victim compensation fund and World Trade Center health program notification. 1. Definitions. For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) the "eligible time period" shall be any time beginning September eleventh two thousand one and ending July thirty-first, two thousand two.

(b) the "notice area" shall be the "New York city disaster area", designated as the area within New York city that is the area of Manhattan that is south of Houston Street; any block in Brooklyn that is wholly or partially contained within a one and one-half mile radius of the former World Trade Center site; and any area related to or along the routes of debris removal, such as barges and Fresh Kills landfill.

(c) the "September eleventh victim compensation fund" shall be the September eleventh victim compensation fund established under the Air Transportation Safety and System Stabilization Act (49 USC 40101).

(d) the "World Trade Center health program" shall be the World Trade Center health program established under 42 USC 300mm.

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

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2. The department of labor shall ensure any business with fifty or more employees which operated within the New York city disaster area during the eligible time period and is still operating shall notify each person employed within the New York city disaster area during the eligible time period of their eligibility under the September eleventh victim compensation fund and the World Trade Center health program. This subdivision shall apply to both current and former employees. The department of labor shall determine the message that the employer shall provide and the method of notification.

3. The department of labor shall consult with the special master of the September eleventh victim compensation fund and the program administrator of the World Trade Center health program relating to matters including, but not limited to, messaging and format to be used in the promotion of the September eleventh victim compensation fund and the World Trade Center health program and if the messages should be tailored for the specific geographic areas covered by the World Trade Center health program in a different manner than those covered by both the World Trade Center health program and the September eleventh victim compensation fund.

4. The commissioner of labor shall promulgate any rules and regulations as are necessary and appropriate to carry out the provisions of this section.

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the two hundred seventieth day after it shall have become a law.