STATE OF NEW YORK

9867

IN SENATE

June 14, 2024

Introduced by Sen. SKOUFIS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the penal law, in relation to unlawful concealment of identity

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

Section 1. The penal law is amended by adding a new section 240.12 to read as follows:

§ 240.12 Concealment of identity in a lawful assembly, unlawful assembly, or riot.

1. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons, involved in a lawful assembly, unlawful assembly, or riot, to wear a hood, mask, or device whereby the person or the person's face is disguised so as to conceal the identity of the wearer. This section shall not apply to any person or persons wearing personal protective equipment for the purpose of ensuring the physical health or safety of the wearer or others during a declared public health emergency, nor shall it apply to any person or persons wearing attire that conceals their identity if the attire is worn for religious observance or customs.

2. For the purposes of this section, "personal protective equipment" shall mean all equipment worn or used to minimize exposure to a communicable disease, including but not limited to face coverings designed to minimize exposure to a communicable disease and face shields.

Concealment of identity in a lawful assembly, unlawful assembly, or riot is a violation.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

LBD15380-03-4