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 Assembly, do enact as follows:

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

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

§ 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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