STATE OF NEW YORK

1247

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 11, 2023

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

AN ACT to amend the penal law, in relation to expanding the offense of assault in the second degree to include the causing of injury to a frontline employee enforcing a city or state rule or regulation related to controlling the spread of communicable diseases

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

Section 1. Legislative intent. The purpose of this act is to provide additional protection to the frontline employees who have been deputized by the state and by local governments to enforce the various rules and regulations surrounding controlling the spread of communicable diseases. State and local governments have instituted various policies such as requiring the wearing of personal protective equipment and requiring patrons to show proof of vaccination against COVID-19. They have left enforcement of such policies up to local restaurants, venue employees, bus drivers, teachers and other frontline employees. Recent attacks on restaurant employees have shown that due to the politicized nature of these public health policies, we must provide additional protection to frontline employees who are charged with enforcing the various rules and regulations put forth to reduce the spread of communicable diseases.

§ 2. Section 120.05 of the penal law is amended by adding a new subdivision 15 to read as follows:

15. With intent to prevent or obstruct any frontline employee from enforcing any city or state rule or regulation related to controlling the spread of communicable diseases, he or she causes physical injury to such frontline employee.

§ 3. 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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