STATE OF NEW YORK

6884--A

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 12, 2023

Introduced by Sen. SKOUFIS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Consumer Protection -- recommitted to the Committee on Consumer Protection in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the general business law, in relation to items left by guests of hotels or other lodging facilities

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

Section 1. The general business law is amended by adding a new section 210 to read as follows:

§ 210. Items left by guests of lodging facilities. 1. The owner, lessor, proprietor or manager of any hotel, motel, steamboat, tourist cabin, camp, resort, tavern, inn, boarding or lodging house shall make reasonable efforts to contact a guest if any item of greater than nominal value, or identification documents, including but not limited to a driver's license, passport, or non-driver identification card, or copies of identification documents, including but not limited to a copy of a driver's license, passport, or non-driver identification card are left behind after the guest's stay.

2. At least two contact attempts must be made within forty-eight hours of the guest completing their stay using the information used to book the stay. Such contact information shall include, but is not limited to, home, business, or cell phone numbers, email, and physical address. A lodging facility must keep a record of the lost item or document and the steps taken to notify the guest.

3. If contact cannot be made, the owner, lessor, proprietor, or manager shall dispose of identification documents and copies of the documents. Disposal of identification documents or copies of identification documents shall include the physical destruction of any physical copies such that it would be impossible to recreate the copy.

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

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4. A lodging facility owner or operator shall not be held liable for any loss or damage to a guest's lost item or document during storage or shipping.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall have become a law.