STATE OF NEW YORK

6639

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 6, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. KIM -- read once and referred to the Committee on Tourism, Parks, Arts and Sports Development

AN ACT to amend the parks, recreation and historic preservation law, in relation to requiring sawyer training for employees engaged in tree maintenance

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

Section 1. The parks, recreation and historic preservation law is amended by adding a new section 3.16 to read as follows:

§ 3.16 Required sawyer training. 1. Beginning April first, two thousand twenty-six, no person employed by the office shall:

(a) engage in tree maintenance, including but not limited to brushing, bucking, limbing, and felling, without first obtaining a level A sawyer certification through the United States forest service national crosscut and chainsaw program;

(b) engage in tree maintenance in hazardous conditions without first obtaining a level B sawyer certification through the United States forest service national crosscut and chainsaw program; or

(c) provide instruction and training on tree maintenance without first obtaining a level C sawyer certification through the United States forest service national crosscut and chainsaw program.

2. All training mandated by this section shall be conducted during the employee's regular working hours and employees shall receive compensation at their regular rate of pay for any time spent participating in such training.

3. For the purposes of this section, "hazardous conditions" shall mean any situation that poses a significant risk to the health and safety of personnel, including but not limited to natural disasters, extreme weather, and other emergency situations.

§ 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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