STATE OF NEW YORK

7887

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 13, 2025

Introduced by Sen. MAYER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations

AN ACT to amend the New York state defense emergency act, in relation to persons eligible to succeed the governor

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

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "unforeseen circumstances act".

§ 2. Section 5 of article 1-A of chapter 784 of the laws of 1951 constituting the New York state defense emergency act, as amended by chapter 420 of the laws of 1968, is amended to read as follows:

§ 5. Persons eligible to succeed governor. If, as a result of an attack or a natural or peacetime disaster, the office of governor becomes vacant and each of the lieutenant governor, the temporary president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly is unable to discharge the powers and duties of the office of governor or is absent from the state, then the officer of the state who is (a) highest in order of the following list, (b) not otherwise unable to discharge such powers and duties, and (c) not absent from the state, shall act as governor: attorney general, comptroller, commissioner of transportation, commissioner of health, commissioner of [~~commerce~~] **economic development**, [~~industrial~~] commissioner **of labor**, [~~chairman~~] **chairperson** of the public service commission, [~~secertary~~] **secretary** of state.

§ 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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