

# STATE OF NEW YORK

1495

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

January 10, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. SIMON, WOERNER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the public buildings law, in relation to induction loop listening systems

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

1 Section 1. Section 53 of the public buildings law, as amended by chap-  
2 ter 23 of the laws of 1989, subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 221 of  
3 the laws of 2018, is amended to read as follows:

4 § 53. [~~Assistive~~] Induction loop listening systems. 1. (a) All new  
5 public buildings, construction of which commences after January first,  
6 nineteen hundred ninety-one, [~~containing~~] which are or contain within an  
7 [~~auditorium, theater, meeting hall, hearing room, amphitheater, or room~~  
8 ~~used in any similar capacity which are so designated by the appropriate~~  
9 ~~building and fire code~~] area of public assembly or service, shall have  
10 equipped and installed an [~~assistive~~] induction loop listening system  
11 for use by persons who are deaf or hard of hearing who require the use  
12 of such a system to improve their reception of sound.

13 (b) The owner of any public building which is or contains within an  
14 area of public assembly or service and has an induction loop listening  
15 system installed and equipped shall post in a clear and conspicuous  
16 manner permanently mounted signage to indicate to visitors that such  
17 induction loop listening system is available.

18 (c) On a biennial basis, the owner of any public building which is or  
19 contains within an area of public assembly or service and has an  
20 induction loop listening system installed and equipped shall complete a  
21 self-certification form and submit such form to the state fire  
22 prevention and building code council, attesting that such induction loop  
23 listening system continues to be functional.

24 2. Standards for such systems shall be developed by the state fire  
25 prevention and building code council upon receiving recommendations from

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

LBD04704-01-5

1 the advisory board on [~~assistive~~] induction loop listening systems in  
2 places of public assembly.

3 3. For purposes of this section, the [~~term~~] following terms shall have  
4 the following meanings:

5 (a) "[~~assistive~~] Induction loop listening system" shall mean [~~situa-~~  
6 ~~tional-personal-acoustic-communication-equipment-designed-to-improve-the~~  
7 ~~transmission-and-auditory-reception-of-sound~~] a hardwired assistive  
8 listening system through which a loop of wire around an area of a build-  
9 ing produces a signal, or a hardwired countertop version that produces a  
10 signal, received directly by hearing aids and cochlear implants equipped  
11 with telecoil features used by persons with hearing loss.

12 (b) "Area of public assembly or service" shall mean a building or  
13 structure, or space within a building or structure, that is regularly  
14 open for public gatherings, including an auditorium, theater, meeting  
15 room or hall, courtroom, community center, amphitheater, library, phar-  
16 macy counter, information desk at a medical facility, a waiting area for  
17 a medical office, bank teller area, car rental business, restaurant,  
18 bar, or other food or beverage counter service location, coat check  
19 area, grocery store check-out area, ticket payment location, or any  
20 other room used in any similar capacity which are so designated by the  
21 appropriate building and fire code.

22 § 2. The state fire prevention and building code council shall update  
23 and amend any applicable building and fire codes to carry out the  
24 provisions of section 53 of the public buildings law.

25 § 3. This act shall take effect seven months after it shall have  
26 become a law.