STATE OF NEW YORK

336--A

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

(Prefiled)

January 8, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. JACKSON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Correction -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the correction law, in relation to requiring the use of body-worn cameras on certain correction officers

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

Section 1. The correction law is amended by adding a new section 135 to read as follows:

§ 135. Body camera for correction officers. 1. The commissioner shall, after consultation with the chairperson of the state commission of corrections, require the use of body-worn personal video recording devices on correction officers assigned to the supervision of general population incarcerated individuals at a maximum security facility. Each such officer shall wear a personal video recording device affixed to their uniform while on duty in the facility. The personal video recording device shall record all the interactions of a correction officer and incarcerated individuals under their care, custody and control. The recording shall include both audio and video.

2. All such equipment shall be installed on or before six months after the effective date of this section. The commissioner shall promulgate all rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this section. Such rules and regulations shall require that all video recordings be catalogued and maintained as a record by the department for not less than six months and shall establish minimum standards for the personal video recording devices, and recording equipment to be used and furthermore shall provide for the protection of personal privacy for those persons whose actions may be recorded. No personal video recording devices may be used as a means to conduct surveillance upon any incarcerated individuals, officer or employee of the department.

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

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3. The commissioner shall issue a report within one year of the effectiveness of this section and annually thereafter detailing the use of and evaluating the effectiveness of personal video recording devices including what impact, if any, the use of body-worn personal cameras has on assaultive behaviors, serious injury, death, and other indicators of increased physical safety of incarcerated individuals, officers and personnel, and which shall also provide relevant recommendations.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.