STATE OF NEW YORK

5173

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 12, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. TAGUE, SMULLEN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to direct the department of environmental conservation and the office of parks, recreation and historic preservation to establish a hiking trail safety pilot program; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

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

Section 1. The department of environmental conservation and the office of parks, recreation and historic preservation are hereby authorized and directed to establish a hiking trail safety pilot program. Such program shall:

a. increase warnings about the potential hazards of hiking and trail use (i) at trailheads throughout the pilot program area, and (ii) on any new trail maps subject to such pilot program;

b. increase warnings at scenic overlooks throughout the pilot program area that may present a risk of a fall;

c. develop better information for hikers regarding wildlife encounters and proper preparation for hiking, including, but not limited to, proper footwear and attire, how much water to bring, requisite navigation skills and leave no trace principles;

d. develop safety markers and a notification system similar to those used at ski resorts within the state; and

e. be implemented by June 1, 2026.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire three years after such date when upon such date the provisions of this act shall be deemed repealed.

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

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