STATE OF NEW YORK

7651

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

April 25, 2025

Introduced by Sen. COONEY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Labor

AN ACT to amend the labor law, in relation to requiring the commissioner of labor to develop instructional tools and materials for industries at high-risk for occupational tick exposures

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

Section 1. Section 21 of the labor law is amended by adding a new subdivision 17 to read as follows:

17. The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of health and the commissioner of environmental conservation, shall develop instructional tools and materials for industries at high-risk for occupational tick exposures including, but not limited to, agriculture, landscaping, and forestry, to assist in the education and awareness program to protect employees from Lyme disease and tick-borne infections established pursuant to section sixteen-b of the agriculture and markets law, and for first responders, road crews, and utility crews. Such instructional tools and materials shall provide information on the identification of ticks, best practices to provide protection from ticks and recommended procedures for safe tick removal. Such instructional tools and materials may include, but need not be limited to, video productions, pamphlets, and demonstration programs to illustrate the various sizes of ticks before and after they have engorged to assist with the identification of ticks and the reaction on the skin, for a variety of skin tones, that may occur as a result of a tick bite, and protection against tick bites. Such instructional tools and materials shall be made available to high-risk employers and employees upon request at no charge and shall be reviewed and updated annually.

§ 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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