

**STATE OF NEW YORK**

5574--A

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

**IN SENATE**

June 3, 2011

Introduced by Sens. RIVERA, ADAMS, DILAN, ESPAILLAT, HASSELL-THOMPSON, OPPENHEIMER, STAVISKY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Cities -- recommitted to the Committee on Cities in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to enactment of the "safe streets security camera registry act"

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

1 Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as  
2 the "safe streets security camera registry act".  
3 § 2. Legislative intent. Currently, the police department of the city  
4 of New York collects information on the location of privately-owned  
5 security cameras manually, by means of periodic surveys conducted by  
6 patrol officers. Such surveys do not capture the locations of newly-in-  
7 stalled privately-owned security cameras in a timely and complete manner  
8 due to their periodic nature and reliance on personal observations by  
9 officers. It is the intent of the legislature that the police department  
10 create an online security camera registry and database for all private-  
11 ly-owned and operated security cameras within the city of New York with  
12 fields of observation that look upon and capture video of public spaces,  
13 such as sidewalks, as well as lobbies, courtyards and vestibules of  
14 apartment buildings. Creating the security camera registry will  
15 strengthen the department's ability to pursue perpetrators of crimes by  
16 enhancing its ability to collect video evidence in a timely manner,  
17 thereby shortening the time needed to bring criminal investigations to a  
18 successful conclusion. The registry will only alert the department to  
19 the existence of privately-owned security cameras that observe persons

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

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S. 5574--A

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1 in public places. Nothing in this legislation will impinge upon the  
2 civil liberties of the people of the city of New York.

3 § 3. The administrative code of the city of New York is amended by  
4 adding a new section 14-154 to read as follows:

5 § 14-154 Security camera registry. a. The department shall create and  
6 maintain an online registry and database of all privately-owned and  
7 operated security cameras within the city of New York with fields of  
8 observation that look upon and capture video of public spaces, such as  
9 sidewalks, as well as lobbies, courtyards and vestibules of apartment  
10 buildings.

11 b. Any individual, company or entity which installs a new security  
12 camera after the enactment of this section shall, within thirty days  
13 after installation of such camera, register the location of the camera  
14 and the contact information for the owner of the camera and include a  
15 brief description of the view the camera captures with the registry and  
16 database created and maintained by the department. The owner of the  
17 camera shall register such information with the department through the  
18 department's online registry.

19 c. The owner of a security camera which has been installed prior to  
20 the enactment of this section shall have ninety days after the enactment  
21 of this section to register the location of the camera and the contact  
22 information for the owner of the camera with the department's registry  
23 and include a brief description of the view the camera captures as set  
24 forth in subdivision b of this section.

25 d. In the event that a crime occurs within the vicinity of a security  
26 camera registered with the department's database, the department shall  
27 obtain the consent of the camera owner to view any footage recorded or  
28 otherwise obtain a subpoena for production of such video.

29 e. The security camera registry and database shall be used solely for  
30 law enforcement purposes. Any data, records, photos, videos or informa-  
31 tion collected for such camera registry shall not be subject to the  
32 freedom of information law pursuant to subdivision two of section eight-  
33 y-nine of the public officers law.

34 § 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

**NEW YORK STATE SENATE  
INTRODUCER'S MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT  
submitted in accordance with Senate Rule VI. Sec 1**

**BILL NUMBER:** S5574A

**SPONSOR:** RIVERA

**TITLE OF BILL:**

An act to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to enactment of the "safe streets security camera registry act"

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the registry is to give the NYPD an inventory of all private security cameras looking upon public spaces in the city. The NYPD will not have automotive or immediate access to the video produced from the cameras, except as a result of the case-by-case arrangements that are sometimes made by individual camera owners. If there is a crime in the vicinity of one or more of the cameras, the NYPD will be able to access the registry for the location and owner/operator of the camera. If the NYPD wishes to access the video produced by any of the cameras, it will have to follow the normal procedure of obtaining consent or a subpoena for the footage.

**SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:**

Section 1 § 2. Legislative intent. Creating the Security Camera Registry will strengthen the NYPD's ability to pursue the perpetrators of crimes by enhancing its ability to collect video evidence, ensuring this evidence is collected thoroughly and quickly, and thereby shortening the time needed to bring criminal investigations to a successful conclusion. The database will be beneficial both during such criminal investigations and also in order to enhance NYDP internal investigations as well.

§3. Amends the administrative code by adding a new section 14-154: Security Camera Registry.

- A) The New York Police Department shall create and maintain an online registry and database of all privately-owned and operated security cameras within the city of New York.
- B) New security camera installations will be registered with the department's only registry and database.
- C) Security cameras installed prior to the enactment of this section shall register with the department's registry.
- D) In the event that a crime occurs within the vicinity of a security camera registered with the department's database, the department shall obtain the consent of the camera owner to view any footage recorded or obtain a subpoena for production of such video.
- E) The security camera registry and database will be used solely for law enforcement purposes.

§4. This act shall take effect immediately.

**JUSTIFICATION:**

Currently, the NYPD collects information on the location of security

cameras manually, by means of periodic surveys conducted by patrol officers. These surveys, because they are periodic, do not capture the locations of newly-installed cameras in a timely manner, and because they rely on personal observations by officers throughout the city, are bound to be incomplete. criminal investigations and also in order to enhance NYPD internal investigations as well. The registry will only alert the police to the existence of cameras that observe persons in public places. Nothing in this proposed legislation will impinge upon the civil liberties of the people of New York City.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

New Bill.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

Minimal.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

This act shall take effect immediately.

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**STATE OF NEW YORK**

8198--A

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

**IN ASSEMBLY**

June 6, 2011

Introduced by M. of A. CASTRO, N. RIVERA, DINOWITZ, LINARES, CRESPO, REILLY, SCARBOROUGH, GIBSON, P. RIVERA, PERRY, M. MILLER, SIMANOWITZ, COLTON, MONTESANO, McKEVITT, TOBACCO -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. CALHOUN, FARRELL, JACOBS, J. MILLER, ROBINSON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Cities -- recommitted to the Committee on Cities in accordance with Assembly Rule 3, sec. 2 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to enactment of the "safe streets security camera registry act"

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

1 Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as  
2 the "safe streets security camera registry act".  
3 § 2. Legislative intent. Currently, the police department of the city  
4 of New York collects information on the location of privately-owned  
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A. 8198--A

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1 the existence of privately-owned security cameras that observe persons  
2 in public places. Nothing in this legislation will impinge upon the  
3 civil liberties of the people of the city of New York.

4 § 3. The administrative code of the city of New York is amended by  
5 adding a new section 14-154 to read as follows:

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19 department's online registry.

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31 law enforcement purposes. Any data, records, photos, videos or informa-  
32 tion collected for such camera registry shall not be subject to the  
33 freedom of information law pursuant to subdivision two of section eight-  
34 y-nine of the public officers law.

35 § 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

**NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY  
MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION  
submitted in accordance with Assembly Rule III, Sec 1(f)**

**BILL NUMBER:** A8198A

**SPONSOR:** Castro

**TITLE OF BILL:** An act to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to enactment of the "safe streets security camera registry act"

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the registry is to give the NYPD an inventory of all private security cameras looking upon public spaces in the city. The NYPD will not have automotive or immediate access to the video produced from the cameras, except as a result of the case-by-case arrangements that are sometimes made by individual camera owners. If there is a crime in the vicinity of one or more of the cameras, the NYPD will be able to access the registry for the location and owner/operator of the camera. If the NYPD wishes to access the video produced by any of the cameras, it will have to follow the normal procedure of obtaining consent or a subpoena for the footage.

**SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:**

Section 1 § 2. Legislative intent. Creating the Security Camera Registry will strengthen the NYPD's ability to pursue the perpetrators of crimes by enhancing its ability to collect video evidence, ensuring this evidence is collected thoroughly and quickly, and thereby shortening the time needed to bring criminal investigations to a successful conclusion. The database will be beneficial both during such criminal investigations and also in order to enhance NYPD internal investigations as well.

§ 3. Amends the administrative code by adding a new section 14-154:

Security Camera Registry.

A) The New York Police Department shall create and maintain an online registry and database of all privately-owned and operated security cameras within the city of New York.

B) New security camera installations will be registered with the department's only registry and database.

C) Security cameras installed prior to the enactment of this section shall register with the department's registry.

D) In the event that a crime occurs within the vicinity of a security camera registered with the department's database, the department shall obtain the consent of the camera owner to view any footage recorded or obtain a subpoena for production of such video.

E) The security camera registry and database will be used solely for law enforcement purposes.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

JUSTIFICATION: Currently, the NYPD collects information on the location of security cameras manually, by means of periodic surveys conducted by patrol officers. These surveys, because they are periodic, do not capture the locations of newly-installed cameras in a timely manner, and because they rely on personal observations by officers throughout the city, are bound to be incomplete. Criminal investigations and also in order to enhance NYPD internal investigations as well. The registry will only alert the police to the existence of cameras that observe persons in public places. Nothing in this proposed legislation will impinge upon the civil liberties of the people of New York City.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: New Bill.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: Minimal.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act shall take effect immediately.

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