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Senate Bill 50 (as introduced 1-23-03) Sponsor: Senator Gilda Z. Jacobs

Committee: Health Policy

Date Completed: 4-29-03

CONTENT

The bill would create a new act to require that owners and operators of health clubs have on the premises at all times at least one person who was certified in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and develop and implement emergency plans for the clubs, or face civil penalties.

The bill would define "health club" as "an establishment that provides, as its primary purpose, services or facilities that are purported to assist patrons in physical exercise, in weight control, or in figure development, including, but not limited to, a fitness center, studio, salon, or club". A health club would not include a hotel or motel providing physical fitness equipment or activities, an organization solely offering training or facilities for an individual sport, or a weight reduction center.

Under the bill, at all times during which a health club was open and its facilities and services were available for use, the health club's owner or operator would have to have present on the premises at least one employee who had satisfactorily completed a course or courses in basic first aid and basic CPR, taught by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, or an equivalent organization approved by the Department of Community Health.

Further, a health club owner or operator would be required to develop and implement an emergency plan to address emergency services, when needed, during operational hours at the health club.

A person who violated these provisions would be responsible for a State civil infraction and would have to be ordered to pay a maximum civil fine of \$250 for a first offense, \$500 for a second offense, or \$1,000 for a third or subsequent offense.

Legislative Analyst: Claire Layman

FISCAL IMPACT

The potential fiscal impact of this bill on State government is indeterminate. Persons in violation of the bill would be required to pay civil fines, ranging from \$250 to \$1,000, which would be deposited into the State treasury. No data are available to estimate how many violations would occur or how much revenue would be generated each year under this bill.

The bill would have no fiscal impact on local government.

Fiscal Analyst: Dana Patterson

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.