STATE OF NEW YORK

10423

IN SENATE

May 15, 2026

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

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law and the penal law, in relation to prohibiting unsafe vehicle modifications and providing enhanced sentencing guidelines where an accident harms or kills someone as a result of the unsafe vehicle modification

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

Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as "Alexa and Lindsey's law".

§ 2. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new section 1212-a to read as follows:

§ 1212-a. Unsafe vehicle modifications. 1. For the purposes of this section, "vehicle safety feature" shall mean any device, system, equipment, software, or technology installed in or on a motor vehicle and designed to assist in preventing crashes, reducing injuries or fatalities, improving driver awareness or vehicle control, or otherwise enhancing the safe operation of a motor vehicle, including but not limited to safety belts, airbags, advanced driver assistance systems, automatic emergency braking systems, collision avoidance systems, lane departure warning systems, blind spot detection systems, electronic stability control systems, backup cameras, and other computer-based or automated safety technologies.

2. No person shall intentionally disable a vehicle safety feature on a motor vehicle and operate such motor vehicle upon a public highway while such vehicle safety features are disabled.

3. A violation of subdivision two of this section shall be a class A misdemeanor.

§ 3. The penal law is amended by adding a new section 120.75 to read as follows:

§ 120.75 Assault while operating a vehicle with a disabled vehicle safety feature.

A person is guilty of assault while operating a vehicle with a disabled vehicle safety feature when such person causes serious physical

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

LBD15913-01-6

injury to another person when such person operates a motor vehicle in violation of subdivision two of section one thousand two hundred twelve-a of the vehicle and traffic law, and as a result of such vehicle and safety feature being disabled causes such serious physical injury to such other person.

Assault while operating a vehicle with a disabled vehicle safety feature is a class D felony.

§ 4. The penal law is amended by adding a new section 125.28 to read as follows:

§ 125.28 Manslaughter while operating a vehicle with a disabled vehicle safety feature.

A person is guilty of manslaughter while operating a vehicle with a disabled vehicle safety feature when such person causes the death of another person when such person operates a motor vehicle in violation of subdivision two of section one thousand two hundred twelve-a of the vehicle and traffic law, and as a result of such vehicle and safety feature being disabled causes the death of such other person.

Manslaughter while operating a vehicle with a disabled vehicle safety feature is a class C felony.

§ 5. Subdivision 2 of section 70.25 of the penal law, as amended by chapter 56 of the laws of 1984, is amended to read as follows:

2. (a) When more than one sentence of imprisonment is imposed on a person for two or more offenses committed through a single act or omission, or through an act or omission which in itself constituted one of the offenses and also was a material element of the other, the sentences, except if one or more of such sentences is for a violation of section 270.20 of this chapter, must run concurrently.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subdivision, the court may impose consecutive sentences where: (i) more than one sentence of imprisonment is imposed on a person for two or more counts in violation of section 120.75 or 125.28 of this chapter; and (ii) such multiple counts were charged based upon multiple victims suffering physical injury, serious physical injury or death as a result of a single act or omission of the defendant.

§ 6. This act shall take effect immediately.