STATE OF NEW YORK

7032

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 28, 2025

Introduced by Sen. SEPULVEDA -- 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, in relation to providing qualified homeless individuals non-driver state identification cards

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

Section 1. Subparagraph (iii) of paragraph (a) of subdivision 3 of section 490 of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by section 2 of part V of chapter 56 of the laws of 2020, is amended to read as follows:

(iii) Notwithstanding any other law, rule or regulation to the contrary, a person who is either (A) sixty-two years of age or older and a recipient of supplemental security income benefits [~~or~~], (B) a recipient of public assistance, as defined in subdivision nineteen of section two of the social services law, supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits, pursuant to section ninety-five of the social services law, or medical assistance, as defined in paragraph (a) of subdivision thirty-eight of section two of the social services law, and who has not been issued a driver's license, or whose driver's license is expired, or who surrendered [~~his or her~~] **such recipient's** driver's license, **or (C) any person who can verify their status as a homeless person or homeless child or youth,** shall be issued an identification card without the payment of any fee, upon submitting the appropriate application. For persons applying for an identification card pursuant to clause (B) of this subparagraph, such application shall include proof that such person is in receipt of public assistance, supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits, or medical assistance, as the case may be. **For persons applying for an identification card pursuant to clause (C) of this subparagraph, such application shall include proof that such person is homeless. Such proof shall include verification from a homeless service provider that has knowledge of the person's housing status. For**

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

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purposes of this subparagraph, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(1) "homeless child or youth" shall have the same meaning as the definition of "homeless children and youths" as defined in the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 USC, 11301 et seq.);

(2) "homeless person" shall have the same meaning as set forth in the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 USC 11301, et seq.); and

(3) "homeless services provider" shall include:

(A) a governmental or nonprofit agency receiving federal, state, county or municipal funding to provide services to a "homeless person" or "homeless child or youth", or that is otherwise sanctioned to provide such services by a local homeless continuum of care organization;

(B) an attorney licensed to practice law in this state;

(C) a local educational agency liaison for homeless children and youth as designated pursuant to 42 USC 11432 (g)(1)(J)(ii), or a school social worker;

(D) a human services provider or public social services provider funded by the state of New York to provide homeless children or youth services, health services, mental or behavioral health services, substance use disorder services, or public assistance or employment services;

(E) a law enforcement officer designated as a liaison to the homeless population by a local police department or sheriff's department within the state; or

(F) any other homeless services provider that is qualified to verify an individual's housing status, as determined by the department.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such date.