

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:

1 Section 1. Subparagraph (iii) of paragraph (a) of subdivision 3 of
2 section 490 of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by section 2 of
3 part V of chapter 56 of the laws of 2020, is amended to read as follows:
4 (iii) Notwithstanding any other law, rule or regulation to the contra-
5 ry, a person who is either (A) sixty-two years of age or older and a
6 recipient of supplemental security income benefits [~~or~~], (B) a recipient
7 of public assistance, as defined in subdivision nineteen of section two
8 of the social services law, supplemental nutrition assistance program
9 benefits, pursuant to section ninety-five of the social services law, or
10 medical assistance, as defined in paragraph (a) of subdivision thirty-
11 eight of section two of the social services law, and who has not been
12 issued a driver's license, or whose driver's license is expired, or who
13 surrendered [~~his or her~~] such recipient's driver's license, or (C) any
14 person who can verify their status as a homeless person or homeless
15 child or youth, shall be issued an identification card without the
16 payment of any fee, upon submitting the appropriate application. For
17 persons applying for an identification card pursuant to clause (B) of
18 this subparagraph, such application shall include proof that such person
19 is in receipt of public assistance, supplemental nutrition assistance
20 program benefits, or medical assistance, as the case may be. For
21 persons applying for an identification card pursuant to clause (C) of
22 this subparagraph, such application shall include proof that such person
23 is homeless. Such proof shall include verification from a homeless
24 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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1 purposes of this subparagraph, the following terms shall have the
2 following meanings:

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

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

9 (3) "homeless services provider" shall include:

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

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

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

18 (D) a human services provider or public social services provider fund-
19 ed by the state of New York to provide homeless children or youth
20 services, health services, mental or behavioral health services,
21 substance use disorder services, or public assistance or employment
22 services;

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

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

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