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I N   S E N A T E

June 16, 2010

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

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to limiting the use of certain substances in brake friction material

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. Legislative findings. The legislature finds that brake  
2     friction is an essential component of motor vehicle brakes and is crit-  
3     ically important to transportation safety and public safety in general.  
4     Debris from brake friction materials containing copper and its compounds  
5     is generated and released into the environment during normal operation  
6     of motor vehicle brakes. Thousands of pounds of copper and other  
7     substances released from brake friction material enter New York state  
8     streams, rivers and marine environments as a result of the normal opera-  
9     tion of motor vehicle brakes. The legislature finds that brake friction  
10    materials are toxic to many aquatic and marine organisms and must be  
11    regulated to ensure the quality, safety, and health of the state's  
12    waterways.

13    S 2. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new section  
14    382-d to read as follows:

15    S 382-D. BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL. 1. DEFINITIONS. (A) "ALTERNATIVE  
16    BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL" MEANS BRAKE MATERIAL THAT: (I) DOES NOT  
17    CONTAIN: (A) MORE THAN 0.5 PERCENT COPPER OR ITS COMPOUNDS BY WEIGHT;  
18    (B) THE CONSTITUENTS IDENTIFIED IN SUBDIVISION TWO OF THIS SECTION AT OR  
19    ABOVE THE CONCENTRATIONS SPECIFIED; OR (C) OTHER MATERIALS DETERMINED BY  
20    THE DEPARTMENT TO BE MORE HARMFUL TO HUMAN HEALTH OR THE ENVIRONMENT  
21    THAN EXISTING BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL; (II) ENABLES MOTOR VEHICLE BRAKES  
22    TO MEET APPLICABLE FEDERAL SAFETY STANDARDS, OR IF NO FEDERAL SAFETY  
23    STANDARD EXISTS, A WIDELY ACCEPTED INDUSTRY STANDARD; (III) IS AVAILABLE  
24    AT A COST AND QUANTITY THAT DOES NOT CAUSE SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL HARD-  
25    SHIP ACROSS A MAJORITY OF BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL AND VEHICLE MANUFAC-  
26    TURING INDUSTRIES; AND (IV) IS AVAILABLE TO ENABLE BRAKE FRICTION MATE-  
27    RIAL AND VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS TO PRODUCE VIABLE PRODUCTS MEETING  
28    CONSUMER EXPECTATIONS REGARDING BRAKE NOISE, SHUDDERING AND DURABILITY.

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

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(B) "BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL" MEANS THAT PART OF A MOTOR VEHICLE BRAKE DESIGNED TO SLOW OR STOP THE MOVEMENT OF A MOTOR VEHICLE THROUGH FRICTION MADE AGAINST A ROTOR OR MORE DURABLE MATERIAL.

(C) "MOTOR VEHICLE" MEANS A VEHICLE AS DEFINED BY SECTION ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE OF THIS CHAPTER.

(D) "MOTOR VEHICLE BRAKE" MEANS AN ENERGY CONVERSION MECHANISM USED TO SLOW OR STOP THE MOVEMENT OF A MOTOR VEHICLE BUT DOES NOT INCLUDE BRAKES DESIGNED PRIMARILY TO HOLD MOTOR VEHICLES STATIONARY AND ARE NOT FOR USE WHILE MOTOR VEHICLES ARE IN MOTION.

(E) "ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT SERVICE" MEANS BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL PROVIDED AS SERVICE PARTS ORIGINALLY DESIGNED FOR AND USING THE SAME BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL FORMULATION SOLD WITH A NEW MOTOR VEHICLE.

(F) "SMALL VOLUME MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURER" MEANS A MANUFACTURER OF MOTOR VEHICLES WITH ANNUAL SALES IN NEW YORK OF LESS THAN ONE THOUSAND NEW PASSENGER CARS, LIGHT-DUTY VEHICLES, HEAVY-DUTY VEHICLES, AND HEAVY-DUTY ENGINES BASED ON THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF VEHICLES SOLD FOR THE THREE PREVIOUS CONSECUTIVE MODEL YEARS.

2. PROHIBITIONS ON BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL. (A) BEGINNING JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND FOURTEEN, NO MANUFACTURER, WHOLESALER, RETAILER, OR DISTRIBUTOR MAY SELL OR OFFER FOR SALE BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL IN NEW YORK STATE CONTAINING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CONSTITUENTS IN AN AMOUNT EXCEEDING THE SPECIFIED CONCENTRATIONS:

(I) ASBESTIFORM FIBERS: 0.1 PERCENT BY WEIGHT;

(II) CADMIUM AND ITS COMPOUNDS: 0.01 PERCENT BY WEIGHT;

(III) CHROMIUM (VI) SALTS: 0.1 PERCENT BY WEIGHT;

(IV) LEAD AND ITS COMPOUNDS: 0.1 PERCENT BY WEIGHT;

(V) MERCURY AND ITS COMPOUNDS: 0.1 PERCENT BY WEIGHT.

(B) BEGINNING ON JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE NO MANUFACTURER, WHOLESALER, RETAILER, OR DISTRIBUTOR MAY SELL OR OFFER FOR SALE BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL IN NEW YORK STATE CONTAINING MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT COPPER AND ITS COMPOUNDS BY WEIGHT.

(C) BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL MANUFACTURED PRIOR TO TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN IS EXEMPT FROM THE DEADLINE MANDATED BY PARAGRAPH (A) OF THIS SUBDIVISION FOR THE PURPOSES OF CLEARING INVENTORY; PROVIDED, HOWEVER THAT SUCH EXEMPTION SHALL NOT EXTEND BEYOND JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE.

(D) BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL MANUFACTURED PRIOR TO TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE IS EXEMPT FROM THE DEADLINE MANDATED BY PARAGRAPH (B) OF THIS SUBDIVISION FOR THE PURPOSES OF CLEARING INVENTORY; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT SUCH EXEMPTION SHALL NOT EXTEND BEYOND JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND THIRTY-ONE.

(E) BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL MANUFACTURED AS PART OF AN ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT SERVICE CONTRACT FOR VEHICLES MANUFACTURED PRIOR TO JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN, IS EXEMPT FROM THE DEADLINE MANDATED IN PARAGRAPH (A) OF THIS SUBDIVISION.

(F) BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL MANUFACTURED AS PART OF AN ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT SERVICE CONTRACT FOR VEHICLES MANUFACTURED PRIOR TO JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE, IS EXEMPT FROM THE DEADLINE MANDATED IN PARAGRAPH (B) OF THIS SUBDIVISION.

3. DEPARTMENT REVIEW OF ALTERNATIVE BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL. (A) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER FIRST, TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW RISK ASSESSMENTS, SCIENTIFIC STUDIES, AND OTHER RELEVANT ANALYSES REGARDING BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL AND DETERMINE WHETHER THE MATERIAL MAY BE AVAILABLE. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER ANY NEW SCIENCE WITH REGARD TO THE BIOAVAILABILITY AND TOXICITY OF COPPER.

1 (B) IF THE DEPARTMENT FINDS THE ALTERNATIVE BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL  
2 MAY BE AVAILABLE, IT SHALL:

3 (I) BY DECEMBER THIRTY-FIRST OF THE YEAR THE FINDING IS MADE, PUBLISH  
4 SUCH INFORMATION AND PRESENT IT IN A REPORT TO THE APPROPRIATE LEGISLA-  
5 TIVE COMMITTEES. SUCH REPORT SHALL INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR  
6 EXEMPTIONS ON ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT SERVICE AND BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL  
7 MANUFACTURED PRIOR TO DATES SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION AND MAY INCLUDE  
8 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OTHER EXEMPTIONS; AND

9 (II) CONVENE A BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE WHICH SHALL  
10 INCLUDE:

11 (A) THE COMMISSIONER, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE, WHO WILL CHAIR THE  
12 COMMITTEE;

13 (B) A REPRESENTATIVE OF MANUFACTURERS OF BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL;

14 (C) A REPRESENTATIVE OF MANUFACTURERS OF MOTOR VEHICLES;

15 (D) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINIS-  
16 TRATION; AND

17 (E) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION WHOSE PRIMARY  
18 PURPOSE OR ORGANIZING PRINCIPLE IS PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT.

19 (C) THE COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED IN PARAGRAPH (B) OF THIS SUBDIVISION  
20 SHALL SEPARATELY ASSESS ALTERNATIVE BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL FOR PASSEN-  
21 GER VEHICLES, LIGHT-DUTY VEHICLES AND HEAVY-DUTY VEHICLES AND MAKE  
22 RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT AS TO WHETHER ALTERNATIVE BRAKE FRIC-  
23 TION MATERIAL IS AVAILABLE OR UNAVAILABLE FOR EACH.

24 (D) BEGINNING EIGHT YEARS AFTER THE REPORT IN SUBDIVISION FIVE OF THIS  
25 SECTION IS PUBLISHED IN THE NEW YORK STATE REGISTER, NO MANUFACTURER,  
26 WHOLESALE, RETAILER, OR DISTRIBUTOR MAY SELL OR OFFER FOR SALE BRAKE  
27 FRICTION MATERIAL IN NEW YORK STATE CONTAINING MORE THAN 0.5 PERCENT  
28 COPPER AND ITS COMPOUNDS BY WEIGHT, AS SPECIFIED IN THE REPORT.

29 (E) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT RULES TO IMPLEMENT THIS SUBDIVISION.

30 4. APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTIONS. ANY MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURER OR BRAKE  
31 FRICTION MATERIAL MANUFACTURER MAY APPLY TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR AN  
32 EXEMPTION FROM THIS SECTION FOR BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL INTENDED FOR A  
33 SPECIFIC MOTOR VEHICLE MODEL OR CLASS OF MOTOR VEHICLES BASED ON SPECIAL  
34 NEEDS OR CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MOTOR VEHICLES FOR WHICH THE BRAKE FRIC-  
35 TION MATERIAL IS INTENDED. EXEMPTIONS MAY BE ISSUED FOR SMALL VOLUME  
36 MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS, SPECIFIC MOTOR VEHICLE MODELS, OR SPECIAL  
37 CLASSES OF VEHICLES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, FIRE TRUCKS, POLICE  
38 CARS, AND HEAVY OR WIDE LOAD EQUIPMENT HAULING; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT  
39 THE MANUFACTURER CAN DEMONSTRATE THAT COMPLYING WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
40 THIS SECTION DOES NOT ALLOW COMPLIANCE WITH SAFETY STANDARDS, OR CAUSES  
41 SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL HARDSHIP. EXEMPTIONS ARE VALID FOR NO LESS THAN  
42 ONE YEAR AND MAY BE RENEWED AUTOMATICALLY AS NEEDED. EXEMPTIONS MAY ALSO  
43 BE PERMANENT, PROVIDED THAT THEY ARE DESIGNATED AS SUCH AND PROVIDED  
44 THAT THE VEHICLE IS USED SOLELY IN THE MANNER DESCRIBED IN THE APPLICA-  
45 TION.

46 5. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS. (A) BY JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND THIR-  
47 TEEN, AND AT LEAST EVERY THREE YEARS THEREAFTER, MANUFACTURERS OF BRAKE  
48 FRICTION MATERIAL SOLD OR OFFERED FOR SALE IN NEW YORK SHALL PROVIDE  
49 DATA TO THE DEPARTMENT ADEQUATE TO ENABLE THE DEPARTMENT TO DETERMINE  
50 CONCENTRATIONS OF ANTIMONY, COPPER, NICKEL AND ZINC AND THEIR COMPOUNDS  
51 IN BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL SOLD OR OFFERED FOR SALE IN NEW YORK.

52 (B) USING THIS DATA AND OTHER DATA AS NEEDED, AND IN CONSULTATION WITH  
53 THE BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY, THE DEPARTMENT  
54 SHALL:

55 (I) BY JULY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND THIRTEEN, ESTABLISH BASELINE CONCEN-  
56 TRATION LEVELS FOR CONSTITUENTS IDENTIFIED IN BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL;

(II) TRACK PROGRESS TOWARD REDUCING THE USE OF COPPER AND ITS COMPOUNDS AND ENSURE THAT CONCENTRATION LEVELS OF ANTIMONY, COPPER, NICKEL OR ZINC AND THEIR COMPOUNDS DO NOT INCREASE BY MORE THAN FIFTY PERCENT ABOVE BASELINE CONCENTRATION LEVELS; AND

(III) IF CONCENTRATION LEVELS OF ANTIMONY, COPPER, NICKEL OR ZINC AND THEIR COMPOUNDS IN BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL INCREASE ABOVE BASELINE CONCENTRATION LEVELS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW SCIENTIFIC STUDIES TO DETERMINE THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE CONSTITUENT ON HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT. IF SCIENTIFIC STUDIES DEMONSTRATE THE NEED FOR CONTROLLING THE USE OF THE CONSTITUENT IN BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL, THE DEPARTMENT MAY RECOMMEND LIMITS ON CONCENTRATION LEVELS OF SUCH CONSTITUENT MATERIAL.

6. COMPLIANCE. (A) MANUFACTURERS OF BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL OFFERED FOR SALE IN NEW YORK MUST CERTIFY COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION AND MARK PROOF OF CERTIFICATION ON THE BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH CRITERIA IMPLEMENTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBDIVISION.

(B) BY DECEMBER FIRST, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, AFTER CONSULTING WITH INTERESTED PARTIES, DEVELOP COMPLIANCE CRITERIA TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION. COMPLIANCE CRITERIA SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, (I) SELF-CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE BY BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL MANUFACTURERS AND (II) MARKED PROOF OF CERTIFICATION, INCLUDING MANUFACTURE DATE, ON BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL AND PRODUCT PACKAGING. MARKED PROOF OF CERTIFICATION MUST APPEAR BY JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN.

(C) BEGINNING JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE, MANUFACTURERS OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES OFFERED FOR SALE IN NEW YORK MUST ENSURE THAT MOTOR VEHICLES ARE EQUIPPED WITH BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL CERTIFIED TO BE COMPLIANT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.

7. CIVIL PENALTY. (A) A BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL MANUFACTURER THAT KNOWINGLY VIOLATES THIS SECTION SHALL RECALL THE BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL AND REIMBURSE THE BRAKE FRICTION DISTRIBUTOR, RETAILER, OR ANY OTHER PURCHASER FOR THE MATERIAL AND ANY APPLICABLE SHIPPING AND HANDLING CHARGES FOR RETURNING THE MATERIAL. A BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL MANUFACTURER THAT VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR EACH VIOLATION.

(B) A MOTOR VEHICLE DISTRIBUTOR OR RETAILER THAT KNOWINGLY VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR EACH VIOLATION. A MOTOR VEHICLE DISTRIBUTOR OR RETAILER IS NOT IN VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION FOR SELLING A VEHICLE THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY SOLD AT RETAIL AND THAT CONTAINS BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL FAILING TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS CHAPTER. HOWEVER, IF THE DEPARTMENT CONCLUSIVELY PROVES THAT THE MOTOR VEHICLE DISTRIBUTOR OR RETAILER INSTALLED BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL THAT VIOLATES THIS SECTION ON THE VEHICLE BEING SOLD AND WAS AWARE THAT THE BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL VIOLATES THIS SECTION, THE MOTOR VEHICLE DISTRIBUTOR OR RETAILER IS SUBJECT TO CIVIL PENALTIES UNDER THIS SECTION.

(C) A MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURER THAT VIOLATES THIS SECTION MUST NOTIFY THE REGISTERED OWNER OF THE VEHICLE WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF KNOWLEDGE OF THE VIOLATION AND MUST REPLACE AT NO COST TO THE OWNER THE NONCOMPLIANT BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL WITH BRAKE FRICTION MATERIAL THAT COMPLIES WITH THIS SECTION. A MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURER THAT FAILS TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED NOTIFICATION TO REGISTERED OWNERS OF THE AFFECTED VEHICLES WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF KNOWLEDGE OF THE VIOLATION IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS. A MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURER THAT FAILS TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED NOTIFICATION TO REGISTERED OWNERS OF THE AFFECTED VEHICLES AFTER TWELVE MONTHS OF KNOWLEDGE

1 OF THE VIOLATION IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED TEN THOU-  
2 SAND DOLLARS PER VEHICLE.

3 8. EDUCATION. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, BY JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND  
4 ELEVEN, PREPARE AND DISTRIBUTE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROHIBITIONS TO  
5 MANUFACTURERS, DISTRIBUTORS, AND RETAILERS TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PRACTI-  
6 CABLE.

7 9. RULES AND REGULATIONS. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL HAVE THE POWER TO  
8 ENACT RULES AND REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

9 S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.