

3353--A

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

March 17, 2009

Introduced by Sens. SAVINO, DIAZ, ONORATO, SAMPSON, THOMPSON -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Transportation -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT creating a first responder task force to improve the margin of public safety on facilities of public transportation authorities by increasing the ridership of specially trained first responder fire officers, firefighters, paramedics and EMTs; and providing for the repeal of certain provisions upon expiration thereof

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 providing
2 safety for passengers who ride mass transit in our communities is a
3 crucial issue. Granting localities with the tools to provide such
4 protection to its citizens is one of the essential roles the state
5 plays.
6 S 2. First responder transportation task force. 1. There is hereby
7 created a thirteen-member task force on permitting all uniformed members
8 of the FDNY employed as emergency medical technicians (EMTs), advanced
9 emergency medical technicians, firefighters, fire marshals and fire
10 officers to ride for no fare on the facilities of public transportation
11 authorities, in the performance of their official duties. The members
12 of the task force shall be:
13 (a) the chair of the senate committee on transportation, the chair of
14 the assembly committee on transportation, and the chair of the Metropol-
15 itan Transit Authority, or their designees, who shall serve as
16 co-chairs;
17 (b) three members appointed by the governor, one of whom shall be
18 appointed upon the joint recommendation of the presidents of the
19 uniformed firefighters association, uniformed fire officers association
20 and the uniformed EMTs and paramedics, Local 2507;

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

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1 (c) two members appointed by the temporary president of the senate,
2 one of whom shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the New York
3 State AFL-CIO;

4 (d) two members appointed by the speaker of the assembly, one of whom
5 shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the New York State
6 AFL-CIO;

7 (e) the New York City comptroller, or his or her designee;

8 (f) one member appointed by the minority leader of the senate; and

9 (g) one member appointed by the minority leader of the assembly.

10 2. Task force members shall receive no compensation for their
11 services, but shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses
12 incurred in the performance of their duties.

13 3. The task force shall meet at least four times and shall hold at
14 least one public hearing.

15 4. The task force shall consult with, and seek advice and recommenda-
16 tions from, public officers, organizations, and entities affected,
17 including but not limited to, the mayor of the city of New York, the
18 speaker of the New York City Council, the commissioner of FDNY, the
19 commissioner of NYPD, the commissioner of New York City DOT and his or
20 her designees with particular expertise in mass transit operations, and
21 employee organizations representing emergency medical technicians
22 (EMTs), advanced emergency medical technicians, firefighters, fire offi-
23 cers and fire marshals.

24 5. The co-chairs shall provide the task force with personnel and
25 support services necessary to accomplish its duties.

26 S 3. Report of the task force. No later than May 1, 2010, the task
27 force shall transmit to the governor, the temporary president of the
28 senate, and the speaker of the assembly a report with recommendations as
29 to the outcome of allowing all uniformed members of the FDNY employed as
30 emergency medical technicians (EMTs), advanced emergency medical techni-
31 cians, firefighters, fire marshals and fire officers to ride for no
32 fare on the facilities of public transportation authorities, in the
33 performance of their official duties and the cost impact of the program.

34 S 4. Pilot No Fare Transit Program. 1. From January 1, 2010 until
35 December 31, 2010 all uniformed members of the FDNY employed as emergen-
36 cy medical technicians (EMTs), advanced emergency medical technicians,
37 firefighters, fire marshals and fire officers may ride for no fare on
38 the facilities of public transportation authorities, in the performance
39 of their official duties. Such members shall have free use of passenger
40 transportation facilities operated by the Long Island Rail Road, Metro-
41 politan Transportation Authority and every public transportation author-
42 ity located in a city with a population of one million or more receiving
43 operating assistance pursuant to section 18-b of the transportation law,
44 provided, however each member is required to display an authorization
45 shield and identification card evidencing that they are members of the
46 fire department of the city of New York and are performing their offi-
47 cial duties or on their way to or from performing their official duties.

48 2. Nothing contained in this act shall supersede or diminish the terms
49 of a collective bargaining agreement.

50 S 5. This act shall take effect immediately. The task force created by
51 section two of this act shall expire and be deemed repealed on and after
52 December 31, 2010.