S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

6742

I N S E N A T E

February 12, 2016

Introduced by Sen. LITTLE -- 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 licenses and registration number plates for the hearing impaired

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

Section 1. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new section 404-a-1 to read as follows:

S 404-A-1. REGISTRATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES OF HEARING IMPAIRED PERSONS. 1. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL, UPON APPLICATION THEREFOR, ISSUE DISTINCTIVE NUMBER PLATES FOR THE MOTOR VEHICLE OR MOTOR VEHICLES PRIMARILY OPERATED BY A HEARING IMPAIRED PERSON. SUCH DISTINCTIVE PLATES SHALL CONFORM TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION FOUR HUNDRED ONE OF THIS ARTICLE, BUT SHALL BEAR THE LETTERS "HI".

2. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ISSUE SETS OF NUMBER PLATES TO HEARING IMPAIRED PERSONS PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION UPON SUBMISSION OF PROOF OF HEARING IMPAIRMENT. SUCH PROOF SHALL BE AS DETERMINED BY REGULATIONS PROMULGATED BY THE COMMISSIONER IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH.

3. THE APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AND HEARING IMPAIRED NUMBER PLATES SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED ONLY BY THE REQUIRED FEE OTHERWISE REQUIRED TO BE PAID FOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION.

S 2. Subdivision 1 of section 504 of the vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new paragraph (a-2) to read as follows:

(A-2) EVERY LICENSE OR RENEWAL THEREOF ISSUED TO AN APPLICANT WHO IS HEARING IMPAIRED, AS DETERMINED BY REGULATIONS PROMULGATED BY THE COMMISSIONER IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH, SHALL, UPON HIS OR HER REQUEST AND SUBMISSION OF PROOF OF HEARING IMPAIRMENT, HAVE PROMINENTLY IMPRINTED THEREON THE STATEMENT "HEARING IMPAIRED". THE COMMISSIONER SHALL NOT REQUIRE FEES FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH LICENSES OR RENEWAL THEREOF TO PERSONS REQUESTING A HEARING IMPAIRED STATEMENT WHICH ARE DIFFERENT FROM FEES OTHERWISE REQUIRED; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL NOT REQUIRE FEES FOR SUCH DUPLICATION OR AMENDMENT OF A LICENSES PRIOR

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

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TO ITS RENEWAL IF SUCH DUPLICATION OR AMENDMENT WAS SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING A HEARING IMPAIRED STATEMENT TO SUCH LICENSE.

S 3. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law. Provided, that, effective immediately, any actions necessary to implement the provisions of this act on its effective date are authorized and directed to be completed on or before such date.