

# STATE OF NEW YORK

8680

## IN SENATE

May 10, 2018

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 authorizing the department of motor vehicles to issue standard drivers' licenses; and to repeal subdivisions 1 and 7 of section 502 of the vehicle and traffic law relating thereto

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

1 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "driver's  
2 license access and privacy act".

3 § 2. Section 201 of the vehicle and traffic law, as added by chapter  
4 380 of the laws of 1980, paragraph (b) of subdivision 1 and subdivision  
5 2 as amended by chapter 568 of the laws of 1994, paragraph (f) of subdivi-  
6 sion 1 as amended by chapter 550 of the laws of 1992, paragraph (i) of  
7 subdivision 1 as amended by section 2 of part E of chapter 60 of the  
8 laws of 2005, item 1 of clause (A) of subparagraph (ii) of paragraph (i)  
9 of subdivision 1 as amended by section 1 of part I of chapter 58 of the  
10 laws of 2015, item 2 of clause (A) of subparagraph (ii) of paragraph (i)  
11 of subdivision 1 as amended by section 1 of part K of chapter 59 of the  
12 laws of 2009, paragraph (j) of subdivision 1 as added by chapter 448 of  
13 the laws of 1995, paragraph (k) of subdivision 1 as amended by chapter  
14 391 of the laws of 1998, subdivision 5 as amended by chapter 196 of the  
15 laws of 1996, subdivision 6 as amended by chapter 432 of the laws of  
16 1997, and subdivision 7 as added by chapter 978 of the laws of 1984, is  
17 amended to read as follows:

18 § 201. Custody of records. 1. Documents. The commissioner may destroy:

19 (a) any application, including supporting documents, for registration  
20 and/or title of a motor vehicle or trailer, other than an application  
21 for renewal of registration, or any notice of a lien on a motor vehicle  
22 or trailer, after such application shall have been on file for a period  
23 of five years;

24 (b) any application for renewal of a registration which results in the  
25 issuance of a registration renewal of any motor vehicle or trailer, upon  
26 entry of an electronic record of renewal on the files;

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

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1 (c) any application for a federal-purpose driver's license, including  
2 any document required to be filed with any such application, after such  
3 application shall have been on file for a period of five years;

4 (d) any application for a standard driver's license, including any  
5 document required to be filed with such application, after the applica-  
6 tion has been reviewed, provided that such application and documents  
7 shall be destroyed after having been on file for a period of six months;

8 (e) any application, including supporting documents, for the registra-  
9 tion, other than a renewal of a registration, of a snowmobile after such  
10 application shall have been on file for a period of two years;

11 [~~(e)~~] (f) any application for renewal of a registration which results  
12 in the issuance of a registration renewal for any snowmobile, upon the  
13 expiration of the registration renewal issued;

14 [~~(f)~~] (g) any application, including supporting documents, for regis-  
15 tration and/or title of a motorboat, other than an application for  
16 renewal of registration, or any notice of a lien on a motorboat after  
17 such application shall have been on file for a period of four years;

18 [~~(g)~~] (h) any application for renewal of a registration which results  
19 in the issuance of a registration renewal for any motorboat, upon the  
20 expiration of the registration renewal issued;

21 [~~(h)~~] (i) any application, including supporting documents relating to  
22 ownership, for any other registration, license or certificate issued  
23 under this chapter and not specifically otherwise provided for in this  
24 subdivision, after such application shall have been on file for a period  
25 of five years;

26 [~~(i)~~] (j) (i) any accident reports filed with the commissioner,  
27 conviction certificates, police reports, complaints, satisfied judgment  
28 records, closed suspension and revocation orders, hearing records, other  
29 than audio tape recordings of hearings, significant correspondence  
30 relating to any of the same, and any other record on file after remain-  
31 ing on file for four years except that if the commissioner shall  
32 receive, during the last year of such period of four years, written  
33 notice to retain one or more of such papers or documents, the same shall  
34 be retained for another four years in addition to said period of four  
35 years. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to certificates  
36 of conviction filed with respect to convictions which affect sentencing  
37 or administrative action required by law beyond such four year period.  
38 Such certificates may be destroyed after they have no legal effect on  
39 sentencing or administrative action;

40 (ii)(A) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (i) of this  
41 paragraph, the commissioner may destroy any conviction certificates and  
42 closed suspension and revocation orders after remaining on file for:

43 (1) fifty-five years where the conviction and suspension or revocation  
44 order relates to a conviction, suspension or revocation by the holder of  
45 any driver's license when operating a commercial motor vehicle, as  
46 defined in subdivision four of section five hundred one-a of this chap-  
47 ter, or by the holder of a commercial driver's license or commercial  
48 learner's permit when operating any motor vehicle, who: has refused to  
49 submit to a chemical test pursuant to section eleven hundred ninety-four  
50 of this chapter or has been convicted of any of the following offenses:  
51 any violation of subdivision two, two-a, three, four or four-a of  
52 section eleven hundred ninety-two of this chapter, any violation of  
53 subdivision one or two of section six hundred of this chapter, any felo-  
54 ny involving the use of a motor vehicle, other than the use of a motor  
55 vehicle in the commission of a felony involving manufacturing, distrib-  
56 uting, dispensing a controlled substance; or the conviction, suspension

1 or revocation involves any of the following offenses while operating a  
2 commercial motor vehicle: any violation of subdivision five or six of  
3 section eleven hundred ninety-two of this chapter, driving a commercial  
4 motor vehicle when as a result of prior violations committed while oper-  
5 ating a commercial motor vehicle, the driver's commercial driver's  
6 license or commercial learner's permit is suspended or revoked, or has  
7 been convicted of causing a fatality through the negligent operation of  
8 a commercial motor vehicle, including but not limited to the crimes of  
9 vehicular manslaughter and criminally negligent homicide as set forth in  
10 article one hundred twenty-five of the penal law;

11 (2) fifteen years for violating an out of service order as provided  
12 for in the rules and regulations of the department of transportation  
13 while operating a commercial motor vehicle.

14 (B) Any conviction arising out of the use of a motor vehicle in the  
15 commission of a felony involving manufacturing, distributing, or  
16 dispensing a controlled substance shall never be destroyed.

17 (C) The provisions of this subparagraph shall only apply to records  
18 requested by a state, the United States secretary of transportation, the  
19 person who is the subject of the record, or a motor carrier who employs  
20 or who prospectively may employ the person who is the subject of the  
21 record.

22 ~~[(j) audio tape recordings of hearings, two years after such hearing,  
23 provided, however, that audio tape recordings of hearings held pursuant  
24 to section two hundred twenty-seven of this chapter may be destroyed  
25 ninety days after a determination has been made as prescribed in such  
26 section.]~~

27 (k) any records, including any reproductions or electronically created  
28 images of such records and including any records received by the commis-  
29 sioner from a court pursuant to paragraph (c) of subdivision ten of  
30 section eleven hundred ninety-two of this chapter or section  
31 forty-nine-b of the navigation law, relating to a finding of a violation  
32 of section eleven hundred ninety-two-a of this chapter or a waiver of  
33 the right to a hearing under section eleven hundred ninety-four-a of  
34 this chapter or a finding of a refusal following a hearing conducted  
35 pursuant to subdivision three of section eleven hundred ninety-four-a of  
36 this chapter or a finding of a violation of section forty-nine-b of the  
37 navigation law or a waiver of the right to a hearing or a finding of  
38 refusal following a hearing conducted pursuant to such section, after  
39 remaining on file for three years after such finding or entry of such  
40 waiver or refusal or until the person that is found to have violated  
41 such section reaches the age of twenty-one, whichever is the greater  
42 period of time. Upon the expiration of the period for destruction of  
43 records pursuant to this paragraph, the entirety of the proceedings  
44 concerning the violation or alleged violation of such section eleven  
45 hundred ninety-two-a of this chapter or such section forty-nine-b of the  
46 navigation law, from the initial stop and detention of the operator to  
47 the entering of a finding and imposition of sanctions pursuant to any  
48 subdivision of section eleven hundred ninety-four-a of this chapter or  
49 of section forty-nine-b of the navigation law shall be deemed a nullity,  
50 and the operator shall be restored, in contemplation of law, to the  
51 status he occupied before the initial stop and prosecution[.]; and

52 [(l) audio tape recordings of hearings, two years after such hearing;  
53 provided, however, that audio tape recordings of hearings held pursuant  
54 to section two hundred twenty-seven of this title may be destroyed nine-  
55 ty days after a determination has been made as prescribed in such  
56 section.]

1 2. Reproduction of documents by commissioner. The provisions of subdi-  
2 vision one of this section shall not prevent the commissioner from  
3 reproducing a copy of any document specified in that subdivision or from  
4 electronically creating and storing an image of any documents maintained  
5 by the department. Such image or reproduction may be designated as the  
6 official departmental record. The original document may be destroyed  
7 after such reproduction or image has been made and filed and the  
8 destruction of the reproduction or image shall be governed by the  
9 provisions of subdivision one of this section.

10 3. Electronically or mechanically stored records. Any electronically  
11 or mechanically stored record relating to:

12 (a) certificates of title shall be retained for a period of seven  
13 years from the date of the issuance of the title plus an additional  
14 three consecutive years of inactivity regarding the titled vehicle;

15 (b) liens and satisfaction of liens shall be retained for one year  
16 from the date of satisfaction;

17 (c) renewal of the registration of any motor vehicle or trailer shall  
18 be retained for a period of one year from the date of expiration of the  
19 registration issued;

20 (d) federal-purpose driver's licenses shall be retained for a period  
21 of two years from the date of expiration of the last driver's license  
22 issued;

23 (e) standard driver's license may be retained only for a period of two  
24 years from the date of expiration of the last driver's license issued;

25 (f) registrations, licenses, or certificates not otherwise provided  
26 for in this subdivision shall be retained for a period of one year from  
27 the date of expiration of the last registration, license or certificate;

28 [~~(f)~~] (g) documents specified in paragraph [~~(i)~~] (j) of subdivision  
29 one of this section shall be retained until the document itself may be  
30 destroyed.

31 4. Whenever any document referred to in subdivision one of this  
32 section shall have been destroyed, a document produced from the surviv-  
33 ing electronically or mechanically stored data record shall be consid-  
34 ered the original record of such document.

35 5. Whenever any document referred to in subdivision one of this  
36 section or any record retained in subdivision three of this section has  
37 been retained beyond the required retention period of such document or  
38 record, the document or record shall not be a public record; and, to the  
39 extent that any document referred to in paragraph (k) of subdivision one  
40 of this section has not been destroyed at the expiration of the  
41 retention period set forth therein, such document shall be deemed  
42 destroyed as a matter of law for all purposes upon the expiration of the  
43 retention period.

44 6. Whenever any document referred to in subdivision one of this  
45 section is filed with this department when it is not required to be  
46 filed and is used by this department for no other purposes, other than  
47 for statistics or research, the document shall not be a public record.  
48 Provided, however, that an accident report filed with this department  
49 when it is not required to be filed shall not be a public record except  
50 as follows: for use by the state or any political subdivision thereof  
51 for no other purposes other than for statistics or research relating to  
52 highway safety; for any lawful purpose by a person to whom such report  
53 pertains or named in such report, or his or her authorized represen-  
54 tative; and, for use by any other person, or his or her authorized  
55 representative, who has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the commis-

1 sioner that such person is or may be a party to a civil action arising  
2 out of the conduct described in such accident report.

3 7. Where a judge or magistrate reports a license suspension or revoca-  
4 tion to the commissioner, following a youthful offender determination,  
5 as is required by section five hundred thirteen of this chapter, the  
6 commissioner shall not make available the finding of the court of youth-  
7 ful offender status to any person, or public or private agency.

8 8. Any portion of any record retained by the commissioner that identi-  
9 fies a person's social security number, address, place of birth, country  
10 of origin, place of employment, school or educational institution  
11 attended, source of income, status as a recipient of public benefits, or  
12 the customer identification number associated with a public utilities  
13 account is not a public record and shall not be disclosed in response to  
14 any request for records except where expressly authorized by this  
15 section.

16 9. The commissioner shall not disclose records or information  
17 collected from driver's license or learner's permit applicants or hold-  
18 ers to any law enforcement agency absent a judicial subpoena or judicial  
19 warrant that names the individual whose information is sought. If  
20 presented with a judicial subpoena or judicial warrant, only those  
21 records or information specifically identified in the subpoena or  
22 warrant may be disclosed.

23 10. The commissioner shall not permit any third party, including any  
24 law enforcement agency, to have direct physical or electronic access to  
25 any databases or indexes maintained by the department.

26 11. The commissioner shall provide notice to each individual whose  
27 information is requested by any third party, including law enforcement.  
28 Such notice shall include the identity of the person or agency that made  
29 the request.

30 12. Any databases or indexes maintained by the commissioner of driv-  
31 er's license applicants or holders shall not include an individual's  
32 social security number or whether the applicant or holder provided a  
33 social security number, and shall not identify whether an individual  
34 holds a standard or federal-purpose driver's license.

35 § 3. Subparagraphs (iv), (vi), (vii) and (viii) of paragraph (a) of  
36 subdivision 2 and paragraph (a) of subdivision 5 of section 501 of the  
37 vehicle and traffic law, subparagraphs (vi), (vii) and (viii) of para-  
38 graph (a) of subdivision 2 as added by chapter 173 of the laws of 1990,  
39 subparagraph (iv) of paragraph (a) of subdivision 2 as amended by chap-  
40 ter 339 of the laws of 2005, paragraph (a) of subdivision 5 as amended  
41 by chapter 692 of the laws of 1985, and subparagraph (ii) of paragraph  
42 (a) of subdivision 5 as amended by chapter 644 of the laws of 2002, are  
43 amended to read as follows:

44 (iv) Class D. Such license shall be valid to operate any passenger or  
45 limited use automobile or any truck with a GVWR of not more than twen-  
46 ty-six thousand pounds or any such vehicle towing a vehicle with a GVWR  
47 of not more than ten thousand pounds, or any such vehicle towing another  
48 vehicle with a GVWR of more than ten thousand pounds provided such  
49 combination of vehicles has a GCWR of not more than twenty-six thousand  
50 pounds, or any personal use vehicle with a GVWR of not more than twen-  
51 ty-six thousand pounds or any such vehicle towing a vehicle with a GVWR  
52 of not more than ten thousand pounds, except it shall not be valid to  
53 operate a tractor, a motorcycle other than a class B or C limited use  
54 motorcycle, a vehicle used to transport passengers for hire or for which  
55 a hazardous materials endorsement is required, or a vehicle defined as a  
56 bus in subdivision one of section five hundred nine-a of this title.

1 Such licenses may be issued either as a standard driver's license or a  
2 federal-purpose driver's license.

3 (vi) Class DJ. Such license shall be valid to operate only vehicles  
4 which may be operated with a class D license by a person under eighteen  
5 years of age, except it shall not be valid to operate a motor vehicle  
6 with an unladen weight or a GVWR of more than ten thousand pounds or any  
7 motor vehicle towing another vehicle with an unladen weight or GVWR of  
8 more than three thousand pounds. Such license shall automatically become  
9 a class D license when the holder becomes eighteen years of age. Such

10 licenses may be issued either as a standard driver's license or a feder-  
11 al-purpose driver's license.

12 (vii) Class M. Such license shall be valid to operate any motorcycle,  
13 or any motorcycle, other than a limited use motorcycle, towing a trail-  
14 er. Such licenses may be issued either as a standard driver's license  
15 or a federal-purpose driver's license.

16 (viii) Class MJ. Such license shall be valid to operate any motorcycle  
17 or limited use motorcycle by a person under eighteen years of age. Such  
18 license shall automatically become a class M license when the holder  
19 becomes eighteen years of age. Such licenses may be issued either as a  
20 standard driver's license or a federal-purpose driver's license.

21 (a) The commissioner shall issue learner's permits as provided in this  
22 article. Such permits may be issued either as a standard learner's  
23 permit or a federal-purpose learner's permit. Such permits shall be  
24 valid only:

25 (i) for the operation of a motor vehicle of a type which could be  
26 operated by the holder of the class of license for which application is  
27 being made;

28 (ii) when the holder is under the immediate supervision and control of  
29 a person at least twenty-one years of age who holds a license valid in  
30 this state for the operation of the type of vehicle being operated; and

31 (iii) in accordance with any additional restrictions prescribed by the  
32 commissioner and noted on such permit.

33 § 4. Section 501-a of the vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding  
34 three new subdivisions 9, 10 and 11 to read as follows:

35 9. Standard driver's license or learner's permit. A license or permit  
36 card that authorizes a person to operate a motor vehicle as determined  
37 by the class of license.

38 10. Federal-purpose driver's license or learner's permit. A license or  
39 permit card that authorizes a person to operate a motor vehicle as  
40 determined by the class of license, and which is intended to meet feder-  
41 al standards for identification accepted by the federal government.

42 11. Judicial warrant. A warrant based on probable cause and issued by  
43 a judge appointed pursuant to article III of the United States constitu-  
44 tion or a federal magistrate judge appointed pursuant to 28 USC 631,  
45 that authorizes federal immigration authorities to take into custody the  
46 person who is the subject of such warrant.

47 § 5. Subdivisions 1 and 7 of section 502 of the vehicle and traffic  
48 law are REPEALED and a new subdivision 1 is added to read as follows:

49 1. Application for license. Application for a federal-purpose driver's  
50 license shall be made to the commissioner pursuant to this section. The  
51 fee prescribed by law may be submitted with such application. The appli-  
52 cant shall furnish such proof of identity, age, and fitness as may be  
53 required by the commissioner. Applicants who cannot present sufficient  
54 proof to obtain a federal-purpose driver's license shall be notified  
55 that they may be eligible for a standard driver's license under section  
56 five hundred two-b of this article. The commissioner may also provide

1 that the application procedure shall include the taking of a photo image  
2 or images of the applicant in accordance with rules and regulations  
3 prescribed by the commissioner. In addition, the commissioner also shall  
4 require that the applicant provide his or her social security number and  
5 shall provide space on the application so that the applicant may regis-  
6 ter in the New York state organ and tissue donor registry under section  
7 forty-three hundred ten of the public health law with the following  
8 stated on the application in clear and conspicuous type:

9 "You must fill out the following section: Would you like to be added  
10 to the Donate Life Registry? Check box for 'yes' or 'skip this ques-  
11 tion'."

12 The commissioner of health shall not maintain records of any person  
13 who checks "skip this question". Except where the application is made in  
14 person or electronically, failure to check a box shall not impair the  
15 validity of an application, and failure to check "yes" or checking "skip  
16 this question" shall not be construed to imply a wish not to donate. In  
17 the case of an applicant under eighteen years of age, checking "yes"  
18 shall not constitute consent to make an anatomical gift or registration  
19 in the donate life registry, except as otherwise provided pursuant to  
20 the provisions of paragraph (b) of subdivision one of section forty-  
21 three hundred one of the public health law. Where an applicant has  
22 previously consented to make an anatomical gift or registered in the  
23 donate life registry, checking "skip this question" or failing to check  
24 a box shall not impair that consent or registration. In addition, an  
25 applicant for a commercial driver's license who will operate a commer-  
26 cial motor vehicle in interstate commerce shall certify that such appli-  
27 cant meets the requirements to operate a commercial motor vehicle, as  
28 set forth in public law 99-570, title XII, and title 49 of the code of  
29 federal regulations, and all regulations promulgated by the United  
30 States secretary of transportation under the hazardous materials trans-  
31 portation act. In addition, an applicant for a commercial driver's  
32 license shall submit a medical certificate at such intervals as required  
33 by the federal motor carrier safety improvement act of 1999 and Part  
34 383.71(h) of title 49 of the code of federal regulations relating to  
35 medical certification and in a manner prescribed by the commissioner.  
36 For purposes of this section and sections five hundred three, five  
37 hundred ten-a, and five hundred ten-aa of this title, the terms "medical  
38 certificate" and "medical certification" shall mean a form substantially  
39 in compliance with the form set forth in Part 391.43(h) of title 49 of  
40 the code of federal regulations. Upon a determination that the holder of  
41 a commercial driver's license has made any false statement, with respect  
42 to the application for such license, the commissioner shall revoke such  
43 license.

44 § 6. Subdivision 3, paragraph (a) of subdivision 5 and paragraph (a)  
45 of subdivision 6 of section 502 of the vehicle and traffic law, subdivi-  
46 sion 3 as amended by chapter 97 of the laws of 2016, paragraph (a) of  
47 subdivision 5 as amended by chapter 138 of the laws of 1981, and para-  
48 graph (a) of subdivision 6 as amended by section 3 of part K of chapter  
49 59 of the laws of 2009, are amended to read as follows:

50 3. Application for learner's permit. An application for a learner's  
51 permit shall be included in the application for a standard or federal-  
52 purpose driver's license. A learner's permit shall be issued in such  
53 form as the commissioner shall determine but shall not be issued unless  
54 the applicant has successfully passed the vision test required by this  
55 section and the test set forth in paragraph (a) of subdivision four of  
56 this section with respect to laws relating to traffic and ability to

1 read and comprehend traffic signs and symbols and has satisfactorily  
2 completed any course required pursuant to paragraph (a) of subdivision  
3 four of this section. Upon acceptance of an application for a learner's  
4 permit the commissioner shall provide the applicant with a driver's  
5 manual which includes but is not limited to the laws relating to traf-  
6 fic, the laws relating to and physiological effects of driving while  
7 ability impaired and driving while intoxicated, the law for exercising  
8 due care to avoid colliding with a parked, stopped or standing vehicle  
9 pursuant to section eleven hundred forty-four-a of this chapter, expla-  
10 nations of traffic signs and symbols and such other matters as the  
11 commissioner may prescribe.

12 (a) Upon successful completion of the requirements set forth in subdi-  
13 vision four of this section, and upon payment of the fee prescribed by  
14 law, the commissioner shall issue an appropriate federal-purpose driv-  
15 er's license to the applicant, except that the commissioner may refuse  
16 to issue such license.

17 (i) if the applicant is the holder of a currently valid or renewable  
18 license to drive issued by another state [~~or foreign country~~] unless the  
19 applicant surrenders such license, or

20 (ii) if such issuance would be inconsistent with the provisions of  
21 section five hundred sixteen of this chapter.

22 (a) A license issued pursuant to subdivision five of this section  
23 shall be valid until the expiration date contained thereon, unless such  
24 license is suspended, revoked or cancelled. Such license may be renewed  
25 by submission of an application for renewal, the fee prescribed by law,  
26 proofs of prior licensing, fitness and acceptable vision prescribed by  
27 the commissioner, the applicant's social security number, and if  
28 required by the commissioner a photo image of the applicant in such  
29 numbers and form as the commissioner shall prescribe. In addition, an  
30 applicant for renewal of a license containing a hazardous material  
31 endorsement shall pass an examination to retain such endorsement. The  
32 commissioner shall, with respect to the renewal of a hazardous materials  
33 endorsement, comply with the requirements imposed upon states by  
34 sections 383.141 and 1572.13 of title 49 of the code of federal regu-  
35 lations. A renewal of such license shall be issued by the commissioner  
36 upon approval of such application, except that no such license shall be  
37 issued if its issuance would be inconsistent with the provisions of  
38 section five hundred sixteen of this title, and except that the commis-  
39 sioner may refuse to renew such license if the applicant is the holder  
40 of a currently valid or renewable license to drive issued by another  
41 state [~~or foreign country~~] unless the applicant surrenders such license.

42 § 7. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new section  
43 502-b to read as follows:

44 § 502-b. Standard driver's licenses. 1. Issuance of standard driver's  
45 licenses and learner's permits. (a) The commissioner shall issue stand-  
46 ard driver's licenses and learner's permits in accordance with this  
47 section to any eligible applicant who seeks one.

48 (b) Such licenses and permits shall be made available with the classi-  
49 fications of D, DJ, M, and MJ as defined by subdivision two of section  
50 five hundred one of this article, and shall be valid for the same peri-  
51 ods as the equivalent class of federal-purpose license.

52 (c) Such licenses shall be visually identical to federal-purpose driv-  
53 er's licenses issued pursuant to section five hundred two of this arti-  
54 cle except that such licenses may state "Not for Federal Purposes" in a  
55 font no larger than the smallest font otherwise appearing on the face of  
56 the card. The commissioner may promulgate regulations to approve addi-



1 tional design or color indicators for standard or federal-purpose  
2 licenses if required to comply with federal law.

3 2. Eligibility for standard driver's licenses. (a) Notwithstanding any  
4 other provision of this article, a standard driver's license shall be  
5 issued to any applicant who furnishes proof of identity, age, and  
6 fitness as required by this section.

7 (b) Proof of identity and age. The commissioner shall promulgate regu-  
8 lations to establish acceptable proof of age and identity for standard  
9 driver's license and learner's permit applicants, provided that:

10 (i) the commissioner shall accept a passport or government identifica-  
11 tion document issued in a foreign country as at least one form of proof;  
12 and

13 (ii) if any applicant is required to furnish a social security number,  
14 applicants may have the option of signing an affidavit stating that the  
15 applicant has not been issued a social security number.

16 (c) Proof of fitness. Applicants for standard driver's licenses and  
17 learner's permits shall be subject to the same minimum age requirements  
18 as provided for in subdivision two of section five hundred two of this  
19 article, and shall be subject to the same examination requirements as  
20 provided for in subdivision four of section five hundred two of this  
21 article.

22 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this article or title,  
23 applicants for standard driver's licenses and learner's permits shall  
24 not be required to prove that they are lawfully present in the United  
25 States.

26 3. Application form. (a) The commissioner shall provide an application  
27 form for standard driver's licenses in accordance with this section.

28 (b) The application form may include fields for an applicant's name,  
29 date of birth, residential and mailing address, sex, height, eye color,  
30 veteran status, whether the applicant chooses to be an organ donor, and  
31 consent of the applicant's parent or guardian, when applicable.

32 (c) The applications form shall include a single field to indicate  
33 whether an applicant has furnished proof of identity as required by this  
34 section, and shall not state the documents used to prove identity.

35 (d) The applications form shall not state an applicant's ineligibility  
36 for a social security number where applicable, and shall not state a  
37 person's citizenship or immigration status.

38 4. Renewals. A standard driver's license or learner's permit may be  
39 renewed according to the procedures provided in subdivision six of  
40 section five hundred two of this article, except that the applicant  
41 shall not be required to provide a social security number.

42 5. Custody of records. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this  
43 article, the commissioner shall collect, store, and maintain documents  
44 and information furnished by applicants for standard driver's licenses  
45 in accordance with this subdivision.

46 (b) The commissioner shall not collect or retain the documents or  
47 copies of the documents furnished by an applicant for a standard driv-  
48 er's license, including those documents furnished as proof of identity  
49 and age.

50 (c) The commissioner may collect the application form completed by an  
51 applicant for a standard driver's license for the period necessary to  
52 review the application, provided that such application and any copies of  
53 such application shall be destroyed after a period of no more than six  
54 months. Application forms shall not be public records and shall not be  
55 disclosed in response to any public records request.

1 (d) The commissioner shall not disclose any information collected  
2 pursuant to this section to any law enforcement agency absent a judicial  
3 subpoena or judicial warrant that names the individual whose information  
4 is sought. If presented with a judicial subpoena or judicial warrant,  
5 only those records specifically identified in the subpoena or warrant  
6 may be disclosed.

7 6. Prohibition on discrimination. (a) It shall be a violation of law,  
8 including but not limited to article fifteen of the executive law, to  
9 discriminate against an individual because he or she applies for, holds,  
10 or presents a standard driver's license or learner's permit.

11 (b) A standard driver's license or learner's permit shall not be used  
12 as evidence of a person's citizenship or immigration status, and shall  
13 not be the basis for investigating, arresting, or detaining a person.

14 (c) Employees of the department shall not inquire about a standard  
15 driver's license or learner's permit applicant's citizenship or immi-  
16 gration status.

17 § 8. Subdivisions 2 and 3 of section 508 of the vehicle and traffic  
18 law, as added by chapter 780 of the laws of 1972, are amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 2. Any application required to be filed under this article shall be in  
21 a manner and on a form or forms prescribed by the commissioner. The  
22 applicant shall furnish all information required by statute and, except  
23 where otherwise provided in this title, such other information as the  
24 commissioner shall deem appropriate.

25 3. License record. The commissioner shall keep a record of every  
26 license issued which record shall be open to public inspection during  
27 reasonable business hours. Such record shall not include the social  
28 security number, address, place of birth, country of origin, place of  
29 employment, school or educational institution attended, source of  
30 income, status as a recipient of public benefits, or the customer iden-  
31 tification number associated with a public utilities account of any  
32 license holders or applicants. Neither the commissioner nor his agent  
33 shall be required to allow the inspection of an application, or to  
34 furnish a copy thereof, or information therefrom, until a license has  
35 been issued thereon.

36 § 9. This act shall take effect immediately.