

# STATE OF NEW YORK

8773

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

November 3, 2017

Introduced by M. of A. GALEF, MOSLEY, HOOPER, RAIA -- Multi-Sponsored by  
-- M. of A. SKARTADOS -- read once and referred to the Committee on  
Transportation

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law and the penal law, in  
relation to operating a vehicle while fatigued; in relation to vehicu-  
lar assault and vehicular manslaughter; and providing for the mandato-  
ry suspension of a driver's license upon conviction of operating a  
vehicle while fatigued

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

1 Section 1. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new  
2 section 1212-a to read as follows:

3 § 1212-a. Operating a vehicle while fatigued. (a) A person is guilty  
4 of operating a vehicle while fatigued when he or she operates any vehi-  
5 cle while his or her ability to drive is impaired by fatigue. Proof of  
6 fatigued operation shall include, but not be limited to:

7 (1) evidence that the defendant fell asleep while driving;

8 (2) evidence that the defendant was aware or should reasonably have  
9 been expected to be aware that he or she has been without sleep for  
10 twenty-four or more consecutive hours.

11 Evidence of such lack of sleep as set forth in this subdivision shall  
12 create a rebuttable presumption that such person's ability to drive was  
13 impaired by fatigue.

14 (b) For the purposes of this section, the term "vehicle" shall mean a  
15 motor vehicle, motorcycle, vessel, public vessel, snowmobile, all-ter-  
16 rain vehicle or any other vehicle propelled by any power other than  
17 muscular power.

18 (c) This section shall not apply to emergency personnel engaged in the  
19 response to a catastrophic event which affects public safety; or  
20 medical, fire or ambulance personnel responding to certain emergencies  
21 or calls for assistance; or persons impaired by fatigue under circum-

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

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1 stances in which a reasonable person would not have anticipated the  
2 onset of fatigue nor had a reasonable opportunity to discontinue opera-  
3 tion of his or her vehicle.

4 (d) Every person violating this section shall be guilty of a class A  
5 misdemeanor. A first violation of this section shall be subject to a  
6 fine not to exceed five hundred dollars; any subsequent violation of  
7 this section shall be subject to a fine not to exceed one thousand  
8 dollars and mandatory license suspension in accordance with the  
9 provisions of section five hundred ten of this chapter.

10 § 2. Paragraph b of subdivision 2 of section 510 of the vehicle and  
11 traffic law is amended by adding a new subparagraph (xviii) to read as  
12 follows:

13 (xviii) For a period of six months where the holder is convicted of a  
14 violation of section twelve hundred twelve-a of this chapter.

15 § 3. Subparagraph 2 of paragraph (a) of subdivision 2 of section 1193  
16 of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by chapter 196 of the laws of  
17 1996, is amended and a new subparagraph 3 is added to read as follows:

18 (2) Persons under the age of twenty-one; driving after having consumed  
19 alcohol. Six months, where the holder has been found to have operated a  
20 motor vehicle after having consumed alcohol in violation of section  
21 eleven hundred ninety-two-a of this article where such person was under  
22 the age of twenty-one at the time of commission of such violation[-];

23 (3) Persons under the age of twenty-one; operating a vehicle while  
24 fatigued. Six months, where the holder has been found to have operated a  
25 vehicle while fatigued in violation of section twelve hundred twelve-a  
26 of this chapter where such person was under the age of twenty-one at the  
27 time of commission of such violation.

28 § 4. Section 120.03 of the penal law, as amended by chapter 732 of the  
29 laws of 2006, is amended to read as follows:

30 § 120.03 Vehicular assault in the second degree.

31 A person is guilty of vehicular assault in the second degree when he  
32 or she causes serious physical injury to another person, and either:

33 (1) operates a motor vehicle in violation of subdivision two, three,  
34 four or four-a of section eleven hundred ninety-two of the vehicle and  
35 traffic law or operates a vehicle in violation of section twelve hundred  
36 twelve-a of the vehicle and traffic law or operates a vessel or public  
37 vessel in violation of paragraph (b), (c), (d) or (e) of subdivision two  
38 of section forty-nine-a of the navigation law, and as a result of such  
39 intoxication or impairment by the use of a drug, or by the combined  
40 influence of drugs or of alcohol and any drug or drugs, or by fatigue,  
41 operates such motor vehicle, vessel or public vessel in a manner that  
42 causes such serious physical injury to such other person, or

43 (2) operates a motor vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of  
44 more than eighteen thousand pounds which contains flammable gas, radio-  
45 active materials or explosives in violation of subdivision one of  
46 section eleven hundred ninety-two of the vehicle and traffic law or  
47 operates a vehicle in violation of section twelve hundred twelve-a of  
48 the vehicle and traffic law, and such flammable gas, radioactive materi-  
49 als or explosives is the cause of such serious physical injury, and as a  
50 result of such impairment by the use of alcohol, or by fatigue, operates  
51 such motor vehicle in a manner that causes such serious physical injury  
52 to such other person, or

53 (3) operates a snowmobile in violation of paragraph (b), (c) or (d) of  
54 subdivision one of section 25.24 of the parks, recreation and historic  
55 preservation law or operates an all terrain vehicle as defined in para-  
56 graph (a) of subdivision one of section twenty-two hundred eighty-one of

1 the vehicle and traffic law and in violation of subdivision two, three,  
2 four, or four-a of section eleven hundred ninety-two of the vehicle and  
3 traffic law or operates a vehicle in violation of section twelve hundred  
4 twelve-a of the vehicle and traffic law, and as a result of such intoxici-  
5 cation or impairment by the use of a drug, or by the combined influence  
6 of drugs or of alcohol and any drug or drugs, or by fatigue, operates  
7 such snowmobile or all terrain vehicle in a manner that causes such  
8 serious physical injury to such other person.

9 If it is established that the person operating such motor vehicle,  
10 vessel, public vessel, snowmobile or all terrain vehicle caused such  
11 serious physical injury while: (a) unlawfully intoxicated or impaired by  
12 the use of alcohol or a drug[7]; or (b) unlawfully impaired by fatigue  
13 then there shall be a rebuttable presumption that, as a result of such  
14 intoxication or impairment by the use of alcohol or a drug, or by the  
15 combined influence of drugs or of alcohol and any drug or drugs, or by  
16 fatigue, such person operated the motor vehicle, vessel, public vessel,  
17 snowmobile or all terrain vehicle in a manner that caused such serious  
18 physical injury, as required by this section.

19 Vehicular assault in the second degree is a class E felony.

20 § 5. The second undesignated paragraph of section 120.04 of the penal  
21 law, as amended by chapter 496 of the laws of 2009, is amended to read  
22 as follows:

23 If it is established that the person operating such motor vehicle  
24 caused such serious physical injury or injuries while: (a) unlawfully  
25 intoxicated or impaired by the use of alcohol or a drug, or by the  
26 combined influence of drugs or of alcohol and any drug or drugs[7]; or  
27 (b) unlawfully impaired by fatigue then there shall be a rebuttable  
28 presumption that, as a result of such intoxication or impairment by the  
29 use of alcohol or a drug, or by the combined influence of drugs or of  
30 alcohol and any drug or drugs, or by fatigue, such person operated the  
31 motor vehicle in a manner that caused such serious physical injury or  
32 injuries, as required by this section and section 120.03 of this arti-  
33 cle.

34 § 6. Section 125.12 of the penal law, as amended by chapter 732 of the  
35 laws of 2006, is amended to read as follows:

36 § 125.12 Vehicular manslaughter in the second degree.

37 A person is guilty of vehicular manslaughter in the second degree when  
38 he or she causes the death of another person, and either:

39 (1) operates a motor vehicle in violation of subdivision two, three,  
40 four or four-a of section eleven hundred ninety-two of the vehicle and  
41 traffic law or operates a vehicle in violation of section twelve hundred  
42 twelve-a of the vehicle and traffic law or operates a vessel or public  
43 vessel in violation of paragraph (b), (c), (d) or (e) of subdivision two  
44 of section forty-nine-a of the navigation law, and as a result of such  
45 intoxication or impairment by the use of a drug, or by the combined  
46 influence of drugs or of alcohol and any drug or drugs or fatigue, oper-  
47 ates such motor vehicle, vessel or public vessel in a manner that causes  
48 the death of such other person, or

49 (2) operates a motor vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of  
50 more than eighteen thousand pounds which contains flammable gas, radio-  
51 active materials or explosives in violation of subdivision one of  
52 section eleven hundred ninety-two of the vehicle and traffic law or  
53 operates a vehicle in violation of section twelve hundred twelve-a of  
54 the vehicle and traffic law, and such flammable gas, radioactive materi-  
55 als or explosives is the cause of such death, and as a result of such

1 impairment by the use of alcohol, or by fatigue, operates such motor  
2 vehicle in a manner that causes the death of such other person, or

3 (3) operates a snowmobile in violation of paragraph (b), (c) or (d) of  
4 subdivision one of section 25.24 of the parks, recreation and historic  
5 preservation law or operates an all terrain vehicle as defined in para-  
6 graph (a) of subdivision one of section twenty-two hundred eighty-one of  
7 the vehicle and traffic law in violation of subdivision two, three,  
8 four, or four-a of section eleven hundred ninety-two of the vehicle and  
9 traffic law or operates a vehicle in violation of section twelve hundred  
10 twelve-a of the vehicle and traffic law, and as a result of such intoxi-  
11 cation or impairment by the use of a drug, or by the combined influence  
12 of drugs or of alcohol and any drug or drugs or fatigue, operates such  
13 snowmobile or all terrain vehicle in a manner that causes the death of  
14 such other person.

15 If it is established that the person operating such motor vehicle,  
16 vessel, public vessel, snowmobile or all terrain vehicle caused such  
17 death while: (a) unlawfully intoxicated or impaired by the use of alco-  
18 hol or a drug[~~r~~]; or (b) unlawfully impaired by fatigue then there shall  
19 be a rebuttable presumption that, as a result of such intoxication or  
20 impairment by the use of alcohol or a drug, or by the combined influence  
21 of drugs or of alcohol and any drug or drugs, or by fatigue, such person  
22 operated the motor vehicle, vessel, public vessel, snowmobile or all  
23 terrain vehicle in a manner that caused such death, as required by this  
24 section.

25 Vehicular manslaughter in the second degree is a class D felony.

26 § 7. The second undesignated paragraph of section 125.13 of the penal  
27 law, as amended by chapter 496 of the laws of 2009, is amended to read  
28 as follows:

29 If it is established that the person operating such motor vehicle  
30 caused such death or deaths while: (a) unlawfully intoxicated or  
31 impaired by the use of alcohol or a drug, or by the combined influence  
32 of drugs or of alcohol and any drug or drugs[~~r~~]; or (b) unlawfully  
33 impaired by fatigue then there shall be a rebuttable presumption that,  
34 as a result of such intoxication or impairment by the use of alcohol or  
35 a drug, or by the combined influence of drugs or of alcohol and any drug  
36 or drugs, or by fatigue such person operated the motor vehicle in a  
37 manner that caused such death or deaths, as required by this section and  
38 section 125.12 of this article.

39 § 8. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after  
40 it shall have become a law.