

STATE OF NEW YORK

7561

IN SENATE

January 27, 2020

Introduced by Sen. KENNEDY -- 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 designating a health condition or disability that may impede communication on a vehicle registration

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 401 of the vehicle and traffic law
2 is amended by adding a new paragraph c to read as follows:

3 c. (a) The commissioner shall provide space on each application
4 submitted pursuant to paragraph b of this subdivision for the applicant
5 to voluntarily indicate that such applicant has a health condition or
6 disability that may impede effective communication with a law enforce-
7 ment officer. The department may request verification from a person who
8 makes an indication under this paragraph in the form of:

9 (i) for a physical health condition, a written statement from a
10 licensed physician; or

11 (ii) for a mental health condition, a written statement from a
12 licensed physician or a licensed psychologist.

13 (b) The commissioner shall establish a system to make information
14 received pursuant to subparagraph (a) of this paragraph available to
15 alert a law enforcement officer who makes a traffic stop that the opera-
16 tor of the stopped vehicle may have a health condition or disability
17 that may impede effective communication.

18 (c) Except as provided by subparagraph (b) of this paragraph, informa-
19 tion supplied to the department relating to an applicant's health condi-
20 tion or disability is for the confidential use of the department and
21 shall not be disclosed to any person.

22 § 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
23 have become a law.

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

LBD13851-01-9