STATE OF NEW YORK

3564

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 8, 2019

Introduced by Sen. SERRANO -- 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 rear passenger seat belts

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

Section 1. The opening paragraph of subdivision 1, subdivision 3 and subdivision 9 of section 1229-c of the vehicle and traffic law, the opening paragraph of subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 18 of the laws of 2005, subdivision 3 as added by chapter 365 of the laws of 1984 and subdivision 9 as amended by chapter 340 of the laws of 2017, are amended to read as follows:

No person shall operate a motor vehicle**, other than taxis, liveries and buses** in this state unless:

3. No person shall operate a motor vehicle unless such person is restrained by a safety belt approved by the commissioner. No person sixteen years of age or over shall be a passenger in the front **or back** seat of a motor vehicle unless such person is restrained by a safety belt approved by the commissioner.

9. [~~Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision four of this section, the provisions of this~~] **This** section shall [~~not~~] apply to buses [~~other than school buses and~~] **with the exception of transit buses as defined in section one hundred fifty-six-a of this chapter. Under this subdivision, any penalty for an unrestrained back seat passenger shall be the responsibility of such passenger, with the exception of children under the age of sixteen, where such penalty shall be the responsibility of his or her parent or guardian.** [~~the~~] **The** provisions of subdivisions one, two, three and three-a of this section shall not apply to taxis and liveries.

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

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§ 2. The opening paragraph of subdivision 1 of section 1229-c of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by chapter 393 of the laws of 2017, is amended to read as follows:

No person shall operate a motor vehicle**, other than taxis, liveries and buses** in this state unless:

§ 3. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new section 156-a to read as follows:

§ 156-a. Transit bus. A motor vehicle as defined under section one hundred four of this article intended to accommodate standing passengers, traveling short distances on a fixed route making frequent stops.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that the amendments to the opening paragraph of subdivision 1 of section 1229-c of the vehicle and traffic law made by section two of this act shall take effect on the same date and in the same manner as chapter 393 of the laws of 2017 takes effect.