STATE OF NEW YORK

8275--A

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

August 25, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. KELLES, BURDICK, STERN, FAHY, MAGNARELLI, GOTTFRIED, SIMON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Transportation -- recommitted to the Committee on Transportation in accordance with Assembly Rule 3, sec. 2 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to the use of pollinator friendly plant species in medians along the highways of the state

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

Section 1. The highway law is amended by adding a new section 19-a to read as follows:

§ 19-a. Pollinator friendly plant species; medians. 1. The commissioner shall, in cooperation with the department of environmental conservation, develop policies and procedures to encourage the use of native plant species that are pollinator friendly in medians along highways under the jurisdiction of the department and to encourage and provide technical assistance to counties, cities, towns and villages in the use of native plant species that are pollinator friendly in medians along highways under the respective jurisdiction of such counties, cities, towns and villages.

2. The commissioner shall develop policies and procedures for mowing medians located along highways on the state system of highways that will, wherever feasible and consistent with standards of safety for motor vehicle operators, cyclists, and pedestrians, reduce the amount of area within such highway medians that is mowed.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such date.

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

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