STATE OF NEW YORK

6649--A

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 11, 2021

Introduced by Sens. SEPULVEDA, KRUEGER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Transportation -- recommitted to the Committee on Transportation in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT in relation to requiring the commissioner of motor vehicles to enter into an agreement with the Republic of China (Taiwan) for reciprocity of driver licenses

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

Section 1. The commissioner of motor vehicles shall enter into an agreement with the Republic of China (Taiwan) through the Ministry of Transportation and Communications represented by the Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural office in New York for reciprocity in issuing driver licenses to citizens from the state of New York residing in the Republic of China (Taiwan) and to the Taiwanese citizens residing in the state of New York. The parties shall agree that reciprocal provisions for issuance and skills to acquire a driver license shall be applicable in New York and in the Republic of China (Taiwan).

§ 2. The parties shall agree that a holder of a valid driver license of the state of New York residing in the Republic of China (Taiwan), shall be able to exchange such license for a Taiwanese driver license at the nominal conversion fee, without being required to pass the knowledge and road test. Correspondingly, a holder of a valid Taiwanese driver license lawfully residing in the state of New York, who is not exempt from licensing requirements under the vehicle and traffic law, shall be able to exchange a Taiwanese license for a standard license in the state of New York at the nominal conversion fee, without being required to pass the knowledge and road test.

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

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§ 3. The state of New York, through the commissioner of motor vehicles, and the Republic of China (Taiwan), through the Ministry of Transportation and Communications, shall agree on the following:

1. Each party to this agreement shall provide samples of driver licenses (or copies thereof) issued at the time of this agreement and thereafter, as well as a definition of all classes of driver licenses, notations and restrictions;

2. This agreement shall only apply to holders of unrestricted driver licenses aged 18 or older and shall not apply to applications for enhanced licenses, real ID's or driver licenses for the operation of a commercial motor vehicle or motorcycle.

3. For the decision on the issuance of a driver license, the same standards, rules and regulations as for any resident of the state of New York and/or the Republic of China (Taiwan) shall apply.

4. Each side shall agree to verify whether the driver still has a valid driver license of the state in which he or she was originally licensed.

§ 4. The agreement shall be signed by both the commissioner of motor vehicles of the state of New York and the Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural office in New York and may be cancelled or revoked in writing by either party at any time and for any reason with three months notice provided that notification shall be sent to the address provided by the parties in the agreement.

§ 5. The commissioner of motor vehicles shall draft the agreement and present such agreement to the Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural office in New York within ninety days of the date this act shall have become a law.

§ 6. This act shall take effect immediately.