STATE OF NEW YORK

7943

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

August 4, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. CUNNINGHAM -- read once and referred to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to establishing training courses for operators of bicycles with electric assist and electric scooters and for operators of bicycles

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

Section 1. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new section 1244 to read as follows:

§ 1244. Bicycle with electric assist and electric scooter training course. 1. The commissioner shall establish a mandatory two-hour bicycle with electric assist and electric scooter training course, available in person and online.

2. Topics covered in such course shall include, but shall not be limited to the following:

(a) traffic laws governing bicycles with electric assist and electric scooters; and

(b) the safe operation of bicycles with electric assist and electric scooters.

3. The commissioner may permit such training course to be given by any private person, club, association or municipality which meets standards established by the commissioner.

4. No individual shall be permitted to purchase any bicycle with electric assist or electric scooter without registering for such training course. Every seller of bicycles with electric assist or electric scooters shall require any purchaser to register for such training course at the time of purchase prior to taking possession of such bicycle with electric assist or electric scooter.

5. An owner of a bicycle with electric assist or an electric scooter, possessed prior to the effective date of this act, shall complete such training course within one year of the effective date of this section

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

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and shall have proof of completion of such training course on their person when operating such bicycle with electric assist or electric scooter.

§ 2. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new section 1245 to read as follows:

§ 1245. Bicycle training course. 1. The commissioner shall establish an optional bicycle training course to be recommended for all bicycle users.

2. Topics covered in such course shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

(a) the laws governing the operation of bicycles;

(b) appropriate traffic behavior and the laws governing such traffic behavior;

(c) identification and avoidance of hazards;

(d) pedestrian and motor vehicle safety;

(e) bicycle safety inspection and maintenance; and

(f) injury prevention.

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