STATE OF NEW YORK

1800

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 23, 2023

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

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to requiring commuter bicyclists to complete a bicycle safety course

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. Commuter bicyclists. 1. Any person using a bicycle as a primary method of transportation to and from their place of employment shall complete and pass a bicycle safety course.

2. (a) The commissioner shall initiate and put into effect such bicycle safety course, the curriculum of which shall include, but not be limited to:

(i) the laws governing the operation of bicycles;

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

(iii) identification and avoidance of hazards;

(iv) pedestrian and motor vehicle safety;

(v) bicycle safety inspection and maintenance; and

(vi) injury prevention.

(b) In developing such curriculum, the commissioner shall consult with the commissioner of transportation, the superintendent of the state police, the commissioners of transportation and police of the city of New York, medical professionals and bicycle safety advocates.

3. The commissioner is authorized, at his or her discretion, to develop a method for approving internet-based bicycle safety courses as an appropriate and effective method for the administration and completion of training in the safe operation of bicycles, for the purposes of awarding a bicycle safety certificate pursuant to this section. All

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

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approved internet-based bicycle safety courses shall employ methods to ensure attendance of the student throughout the course.

4. The commissioner is authorized and directed to establish a system for tracking and replacing bicycle safety certificates issued by the commissioner. The commissioner is further authorized to require that any other entity approved by the commissioner to provide courses of instruction and award bicycle safety certificates establish a system for tracking and replacing bicycle safety certificates so as to enable the replacement of lost or stolen certificates to those who have previously been awarded such certificates.

5. Such safety course may be taken on or after the effective date of this section but shall be taken no later than one year after such effective date or one year after a person subject to the provisions of this section begins using a bicycle as a primary method of transportation, whichever is later.

§ 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 effective date.