

STATE OF NEW YORK

2145

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 18, 2023

Introduced by Sen. PERSAUD -- 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 establishing a sex trafficking awareness and prevention program

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

1 Section 1. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new
2 section 224-b to read as follows:

3 § 224-b. Sex trafficking awareness and prevention program. (a) The
4 commissioner, in conjunction with the interagency task force on human
5 trafficking, the commissioner of the division of criminal justice
6 services and the commissioner of transportation, shall develop a sex
7 trafficking awareness and prevention program. The sex trafficking aware-
8 ness and prevention program shall be established for the purpose of
9 providing education and awareness for the prevention of sex trafficking
10 in this state. Within amounts appropriated, the program shall provide
11 education and awareness literature and educational materials to all
12 drivers with a commercial motor vehicle license as defined in section
13 five hundred one-a of this chapter. The materials shall include, but not
14 be limited to, warning signs of potential sex trafficking and entities
15 to whom a driver may report suspected activity that might constitute sex
16 trafficking. The commissioner may coordinate with the interagency task
17 force on human trafficking in providing relevant literature and materi-
18 als to such drivers.

19 (b) The commissioner may additionally coordinate with the interagency
20 task force on human trafficking: (i) to collect and organize data on the
21 nature and extent of trafficking in persons in the state; (ii) to iden-
22 tify available federal, state and local programs to provide services to
23 victims of trafficking; (iii) to consult with governmental and non-go-
24 vernmental organizations in developing recommendations to strengthen
25 state and local efforts to prevent trafficking; (iv) to measure and

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

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1 evaluate the state's progress in preventing trafficking, and prosecuting
2 persons engaged in trafficking; and (v) to evaluate the effectiveness of
3 the sex trafficking awareness and prevention program.

4 (c) The commissioner shall report annually on the program's effective-
5 ness in its annual report.

6 (d) For purposes of this section, "interagency task force on human
7 trafficking" shall mean the interagency task force on human trafficking
8 established by section four hundred eighty-three-ee of the social
9 services law.

10 (e) To effectuate the purposes of this section, the commissioner may
11 request and shall receive from any department, division, board, bureau,
12 commission or other agency of the state or any state public authority
13 such assistance, information and data as will enable the sex trafficking
14 awareness and prevention program to properly carry out its powers and
15 duties.

16 § 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
17 have become a law; provided, however, subdivision (c) of section 224-b
18 of the vehicle and traffic law, as added by section one of this act,
19 shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have
20 become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or
21 repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of
22 this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed
23 on or before such effective date.