STATE OF NEW YORK

9506

IN SENATE

May 16, 2024

Introduced by Sen. COONEY -- 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 designating a health condition or disability that may impede communication on a vehicle registration

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

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 401 of the vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new paragraph c to read as follows:

c. (a) The commissioner shall provide space on each application submitted pursuant to paragraph b of this subdivision for the applicant to voluntarily indicate that such applicant has a health condition or disability that may impede effective communication with a law enforcement officer. The department may request verification from a person who makes an indication under this paragraph in the form of:

(i) for a physical health condition, a written statement from a licensed physician; or

(ii) for a mental health condition, a written statement from a licensed physician or a licensed psychologist.

(b) The commissioner shall establish a system to make information received pursuant to subparagraph (a) of this paragraph available to alert a law enforcement officer who makes a traffic stop that the operator of the stopped vehicle may have a health condition or disability that may impede effective communication.

(c) Except as provided by subparagraph (b) of this paragraph, information supplied to the department relating to an applicant's health condition or disability is for the confidential use of the department and shall not be disclosed to any person.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law.

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

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