STATE OF NEW YORK

9703

IN SENATE

May 22, 2024

Introduced by Sens. COONEY, ADDABBO, ASHBY, BORRELLO, BROUK, CLEARE, GALLIVAN, GOUNARDES, HINCHEY, HOYLMAN-SIGAL, MANNION, MARTINEZ, MAY, MYRIE, ORTT, PALUMBO, ROLISON, WEBER, WEIK -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the transportation law, in relation to the service area for paratransit transportation

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

Section 1. Subdivision 4 of section 15-b of the transportation law, as amended by chapter 385 of the laws of 1985, is amended to read as follows:

4. Accessible buses. The system shall include access by transportation disabled persons, including persons in wheelchairs, to not less than sixty-five percent of buses in the regularly operated fleet of the authority, which shall be properly operated and maintained to facilitate their use by transportation disabled persons. To meet this sixty-five percent requirement, all buses purchased, leased, or otherwise brought newly into service on the bus lines of the authority and its subsidiaries, except buses leased or otherwise put into service to relieve temporary, unplanned shortages of buses in service, shall be accessible to transportation disabled persons until the sixty-five percent requirement is met. **Accessible buses shall be available within a service area measuring three miles from any bus line of the authority and its subsidiaries.**

§ 2. Subdivision 4 of section 15-c of the transportation law, as added by chapter 61 of the laws of 1990, is amended to read as follows:

4. Required level of fixed-route accessibility. a. Each transportation provider shall provide access to one hundred percent of its regularly-operated buses that provide local, fixed-route service. To implement this requirement on and after the effective date of this section, all buses purchased, leased or otherwise brought into service on the bus lines of each transportation provider shall be lift-equipped except any bus which a provider has under contract of purchase on July first, nine-

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

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teen hundred ninety for delivery after that date. Such lift-equipped buses shall be properly operated and maintained to facilitate their use by transit-disabled persons.

b. The provisions of paragraph a of this subdivision shall not apply to buses that are purchased, leased or otherwise brought into service that have a useful life of six years or less.

c. Accessible buses shall be available within a service area measuring three miles from any bus line of the authority and its subsidiaries.

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