

STATE OF NEW YORK

2623

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 21, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. OTIS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to creating a transportation subsidy to increase access to water safety instruction

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

1 Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 3641-c
2 to read as follows:

3 § 3641-c. After school transportation subsidy for private instruction
4 in water safety. 1. The department shall make available, and eligible
5 public schools in the state shall provide, an optional subsidy to fund
6 transportation for students to attend a qualified swimming and water
7 safety instruction course at a qualified private facility. The quali-
8 fications of such course and facility shall be defined by the commis-
9 sioner, in consultation with the department of health, in regulations.

10 2. Students attending a public school within the state shall be eligi-
11 ble to enroll into the transportation subsidy provided that:

12 (a) within a city of one million or more, there are no more than ten
13 qualified facilities providing a qualified course within a radius of
14 two-and-one-half miles of such public school; or

15 (b) outside a city of one million or more, there are no more than ten
16 qualified facilities providing a qualified course within a radius of
17 five miles of such public school.

18 3. All students in grades kindergarten through twelve at an eligible
19 public school may opt into the transportation subsidy upon displaying
20 proof of such student's enrollment in an eligible instruction program at
21 an eligible facility.

22 4. The department shall promulgate regulations to determine:

23 (a) which forms of transportation may be funded by such subsidy on a
24 local basis, including but not limited to school buses or public trans-
25 it;

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

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- 1 (b) on what basis separate transportation for a parent may be eligible
- 2 for the subsidy; and
- 3 (c) in what form subsidy allotments are to be distributed to enrolled
- 4 students.

5 § 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
6 have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or
7 repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of
8 this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed
9 on or before such effective date.