STATE OF NEW YORK

9133

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

September 26, 2025

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

AN ACT to amend the transportation law, in relation to enacting the "minivan passenger safety and DOT inspection act"

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

Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "minivan passenger safety and DOT inspection act".

§ 2. Legislative findings. The legislature finds and declares:

a. Minivans used in commercial passenger transport (including medical transport, livery, and passenger-for-hire services) frequently carry more passengers and mileage than typical private sedans and station wagons.

b. The current statutory framework does not expressly require semi-annual department of transportation inspections for minivans used in such commercial passenger service, creating an enforcement gap that may compromise public safety.

c. Uniform inspection requirements for all vehicles used to transport passengers for compensation are essential to ensure ongoing safety and reliability of the transportation system.

§ 3. The closing paragraph of section 151 of the transportation law, as amended by section 8 of part G of chapter 58 of the laws of 2012, is amended to read as follows:

For the purposes of this article, the term "sedan" or "sedans" as used herein shall include private passenger automobiles, but shall not include commercial motor vehicles with a seating capacity of eleven persons or more including the driver**, and shall not include minivans. For the purposes of this paragraph, "minivan" shall mean a motor vehicle designed to transport passengers, with seating for seven to ten occupants, including the driver, and primarily configured to provide passenger transport**.

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

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§ 4. Paragraph a of subdivision 2 of section 140 of the transportation law is amended by adding a new subparagraph (vii) to read as follows:

(vii) All minivans used for the purpose of transporting passengers for compensation. For the purposes of this subparagraph, "minivan" shall mean a motor vehicle designed to transport passengers, with seating for seven to ten occupants, including the driver, and primarily configured to provide passenger transport. Any rules and regulations adopted by the commissioner to govern the safety and operation of such minivans shall:

(a) specify the inspection standards, intervals, and scope applicable to minivans used for passenger transport for compensation;

(b) set forth enforcement procedures, penalties, and remedies for noncompliance; and

(c) provide for enforcement coordination with local and state authorities to ensure uniform application statewide.

§ 5. Severability clause. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this act shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the legislature that this act would have been enacted even if such invalid provisions had not been included herein.

§ 6. 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.