STATE OF NEW YORK

10243

IN SENATE

May 8, 2026

Introduced by Sen. CLEARE -- 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 an affirmative defense to certain parking violations for individuals attending religious services

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

Section 1. Section 1111-c of the vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new subdivision (p) to read as follows:

(p) It shall be an affirmative defense to any notice of liability issued for standing, stopping, or parking in a bus lane in violation of the applicable provisions of section 4-08 of chapter four of title thirty-four of the rules of the city of New York pursuant to a bus rapid transit program adopted pursuant to this section that the operator of the vehicle was attending religious services at the time of such violation.

§ 2. Section 1111-c-1 of the vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new subdivision (r) to read as follows:

(r) It shall be an affirmative defense to any notice of liability issued for a violation of section 4-08(e)(9) or 4-08(f)(4) of chapter four of title thirty-four of the rules of the city of New York pursuant to a demonstration program adopted pursuant to this section that the operator of the vehicle was attending religious services at the time of such violation.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately; provided however that the amendments to sections 1111-c and 1111-c-1 of the vehicle and traffic law made by sections one and two of this act shall not affect the repeal of such sections and shall be deemed repealed therewith.

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

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