STATE OF NEW YORK

2381

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 16, 2025

Introduced by Sen. MATTERA -- 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 and the general business law, in relation to required accident damage reporting

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

Section 1. Section 604 of the vehicle and traffic law is amended to read as follows:

§ 604. Reports; contents; preparation; distribution; filing. Reports of accidents required under the preceding section, or under the rules and regulations of the commissioner, shall be upon forms prepared by [~~him~~] **such commissioner** and contain such information as [~~he~~] **such commissioner** shall prescribe**; provided, however, such information shall at a minimum include the cost or estimated cost of repairs for any motor vehicle damaged in such accident, or if a motor vehicle involved in such accident incurred no damage then a notation of such fact**. Blank forms for such reports shall be printed by the commissioner and a supply sent to all city, town and village clerks and to the chief officer of every city police department for general distribution and use as herein provided. Reports of accidents, required under the preceding section, shall be sent to and filed with the commissioner at the main office of the bureau of motor vehicles in the city of Albany, except as otherwise provided by the rules and regulations of the commissioner.

§ 2. Section 604 of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by chapter 196 of the laws of 2024, is amended to read as follows:

§ 604. Reports; contents; preparation; distribution; filing. Reports of accidents required under sections six hundred three and six hundred three-a of this article, or under the rules and regulations of the commissioner, shall be upon forms prepared by the commissioner and contain such information as the commissioner shall prescribe; provided, however, that the commissioner shall provide space on such forms to

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

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indicate the type or types of vehicles involved, including passenger motor vehicles, commercial motor vehicles, motorcycles, limited use motorcycles, off-highway motorcycles, electric scooters, bicycles with electric assist, and/or bicycles**; provided further, however, such information shall additionally include the cost or estimated cost of repairs for any motor vehicle damaged in such accident, or if a motor vehicle involved in such accident incurred no damage then a notation of such fact**. Blank forms for such reports shall be printed by the commissioner and a supply sent to all city, town and village clerks and to the chief officer of every city police department for general distribution and use as herein provided. Reports of accidents, required under the preceding section, shall be sent to and filed with the commissioner at the main office of the bureau of motor vehicles in the city of Albany, except as otherwise provided by the rules and regulations of the commissioner.

§ 3. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new section 607 to read as follows:

§ 607. Disclosure to motor vehicle condition reporting agencies. 1. The commissioner shall make any information regarding damage and the cost or estimated cost of repairs of such damage or lack of damage incurred by motor vehicles reported pursuant to the provisions of this article available to motor vehicle condition reporting agencies.

2. As used in this section, the term "motor vehicle condition reporting agency" shall have the same meaning as such term is defined in section three hundred ninety-nine-vv of the general business law.

§ 4. The general business law is amended by adding a new section 399-vv to read as follows:

§ 399-vv. Motor vehicle condition reporting agencies. 1. As used in this section, the term "motor vehicle condition reporting agency" means any person who, for monetary fees, dues, or on a cooperative nonprofit basis, regularly engages in whole or in part in the practice of assembling or evaluating motor vehicle maintenance and condition information for the purpose of furnishing reports on the maintenance and condition of a motor vehicle to third parties.

2. Every report by a motor vehicle condition reporting agency which includes information regarding an accident a motor vehicle has been involved in shall include the cost or estimated cost of repairs for any damage incurred by such vehicle as a result of such accident, or if no damage was incurred by the motor vehicle as a result of such accident a notation of such fact.

§ 5. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law; provided, however, that section two of this act shall take effect on the same date and in the same manner as chapter 196 of the laws of 2024, takes effect. 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.