STATE OF NEW YORK

2399

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 17, 2025

Introduced by Sen. PERSAUD -- 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 a sex trafficking awareness and prevention program

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

Section 1. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new section 224-b to read as follows:

§ 224-b. Sex trafficking awareness and prevention program. (a) The commissioner, in conjunction with the interagency task force on human trafficking, the commissioner of the division of criminal justice services and the commissioner of transportation, shall develop a sex trafficking awareness and prevention program. The sex trafficking awareness and prevention program shall be established for the purpose of providing education and awareness for the prevention of sex trafficking in this state. Within amounts appropriated, the program shall provide education and awareness literature and educational materials to all drivers with a commercial motor vehicle license as defined in section five hundred one-a of this chapter. The materials shall include, but not be limited to, warning signs of potential sex trafficking and entities to whom a driver may report suspected activity that might constitute sex trafficking. The commissioner may coordinate with the interagency task force on human trafficking in providing relevant literature and materials to such drivers.

(b) The commissioner may additionally coordinate with the interagency task force on human trafficking: (i) to collect and organize data on the nature and extent of trafficking in persons in the state; (ii) to identify available federal, state and local programs to provide services to victims of trafficking; (iii) to consult with governmental and non-governmental organizations in developing recommendations to strengthen state and local efforts to prevent trafficking; (iv) to measure and

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

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evaluate the state's progress in preventing trafficking, and prosecuting persons engaged in trafficking; and (v) to evaluate the effectiveness of the sex trafficking awareness and prevention program.

(c) The commissioner shall report annually on the program's effectiveness in its annual report.

(d) For purposes of this section, "interagency task force on human trafficking" shall mean the interagency task force on human trafficking established by section four hundred eighty-three-ee of the social services law.

(e) To effectuate the purposes of this section, the commissioner may request and shall receive from any department, division, board, bureau, commission or other agency of the state or any state public authority such assistance, information and data as will enable the sex trafficking awareness and prevention program to properly carry out its powers and duties.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law; provided, however, subdivision (c) of section 224-b of the vehicle and traffic law, as added by section one of 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.