STATE OF NEW YORK

2527

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 21, 2025

Introduced by Sens. FELDER, ADDABBO -- 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 requiring license plates for bicycles, bicycles with electric assist and electric scooters

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

Section 1. The article heading of article 34 of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by chapter 694 of the laws of 1995, is amended to read as follows:

REGISTRATION AND OPERATION OF BICYCLES AND PLAY DEVICES

§ 2. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new section 1244 to read as follows:

§ 1244. Registration of bicycles, bicycles with electric assist, and electric scooters. a. In a city having a population of one million or more, every bicycle as defined in section one hundred two of this chapter, bicycle with electric assist as defined in section one hundred two-c of this chapter and electric scooter as defined in section one hundred fourteen-e of this chapter shall be registered and issued a license plate by the department. In a city having a population of one million or more, no person shall operate a bicycle, bicycle with electric assist or electric scooter on the public highways unless such bicycle, bicycle with electric assist or electric scooter shall have a distinctive number assigned to it by the commissioner and a number plate issued by the commissioner with a number corresponding to that of the certificate of registration.

b. Such license plates shall be of such material, form, design and dimensions and contain or set forth such distinguishing number or other identification marks as the commissioner shall prescribe, provided, however, that there shall be at all times a marked contrast between the color of the number plates and that of the numerals or letters thereon,

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

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and provided further that no bicycle, bicycle with electric assist or electric scooter shall display the number plates of more than one state at a time, nor shall any plate be used other than those issued by the commissioner.

c. Each such license plate shall identify whether the bicycle, bicycle with electric assist or electric scooter is personal or commercial in nature.

d. Each such license plate shall be conspicuously displayed on the rear of the bicycle, bicycle with electric assist or electric scooter, securely fastened so as to prevent the same from swinging.

e. The fee for such license plates shall be a nominal fee determined by the commissioner.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.