STATE OF NEW YORK

5490

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 21, 2025

Introduced by Sen. ASHBY -- 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 allowing persons in recovery to have a distinguishing mark printed on their driver's license for cases of medical emergencies

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

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 504 of the vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new paragraph (a-2) to read as follows:

(a-2) Every license or renewal thereof issued to an applicant who opts to distinguish as a person in recovery shall, upon the applicant's request and submission of an application for renewal or issuance of such license, contain a distinguishing mark of "R" indicating that the applicant is a person in recovery. The commissioner shall not require fees for the issuance of such licenses or renewals thereof to persons requesting an "R" distinguishing mark which are different from fees otherwise required. For the purposes of this section, a "person in recovery" shall mean any person who would like their license to specify for cases of medical emergencies that such person is in some form of drug or alcohol recovery.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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