STATE OF NEW YORK

9038

IN SENATE

January 27, 2026

Introduced by Sen. SEPULVEDA -- 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 a driver be present in all motor vehicles operated for hire

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

Section 1. Subdivision 23 of section 375 of the vehicle and traffic law is amended to read as follows:

23. Every motor vehicle operated for hire upon the public highways of this state**: (a)** shall be equipped with handles or other devices which shall permit the door or doors to the passenger compartment to be readily opened from the interior of the vehicle**; and (b) shall not be a vehicle operated by an automated driving system without a human driver physically present in such vehicle, seated behind the steering wheel and engaged in the task of driving**.

§ 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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