STATE OF NEW YORK

10859

IN ASSEMBLY

April 8, 2026

Introduced by M. of A. P. CARROLL -- read once and referred to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT in relation to enacting the "ride N.Y. act" ordering a New York integrated travel project

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

Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "ride N.Y. act".

§ 2. Legislative findings and statement of purpose. The legislature finds, determines and declares:

(a) New York's transit authorities and providers play an essential role in providing access to professional, medical, and recreational opportunities across New York State - particularly for senior, disabled, Medicare-eligible, and low-income New Yorkers. These essential services provide mobility to our most vulnerable, provide badly needed financial relief as our state is in the throes of an affordability crisis, and help make New York's per-capita fossil fuel emissions some of the lowest in the United States.

(b) A public policy purpose would be served and the interests of the people of the state, both transit riders and taxpayers, would be advanced by working to implement contactless fare payment, centralize and automate customer discounts (such as those offered to elderly New Yorkers), and standardize travel information with real-time data.

§ 3. The New York State Department of Transportation is hereby authorized and directed to conduct an integrated travel project in tandem with the Office of General Services, Department of Motor Vehicles, regional transportation authorities listed under article 5 of the public authorities law, and county-run public transit providers:

1. Such integrated travel project shall address no less than the following issues:

(a) the need to launch a statewide procurement process to purchase the key hardware and software needed to accept contactless payments on public transit;

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

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(b) streamlining the process for transit riders to instantly qualify for and receive discounts, in particular seniors, youth, lower-income riders, veterans, people with disabilities, by creating a single benefits web application;

(c) developing New York transit data guidelines to allow every public transit provider in New York State to access the General Transit Feed Specification (GTFS), ensuring statewide GTFS schedule/static coverage and GTFS Realtime;

(d) making certain such work is based on similar projects launched in other states such as California, Connecticut, and New Jersey, is not bespoke, and facilitates present or future fare payment integration with other states and provinces of Canada to the greatest extent possible, in particular Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Quebec, Vermont, and Washington D.C.;

(e) ensuring full and immediate integration with the Connecticut Department of Transportation's ongoing integrated travel project conducted by the customer experience unit and NJ Transit's "FARE-PAY"; and

(f) permitting fare capping and incentives across providers.

2. The New York State Department of Transportation shall report such findings to the governor and the legislature within eighteen months after the effective date of this act and every November biennially thereafter.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately.