

# STATE OF NEW YORK

4026

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

January 30, 2025

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

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to enacting the  
"New York state window tinting safety and enforcement act"; and making  
an appropriation therefor

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

1 Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as  
2 the "New York state window tinting safety and enforcement act".

3 § 2. Legislative intent. The legislature finds that non-compliant  
4 window tinting presents a safety hazard by reducing visibility for driv-  
5 ers and law enforcement officers. Although New York state currently  
6 limits the allowable level of tint on vehicle windows, enforcement of  
7 this law has proven inconsistent. The intent of this legislation is to  
8 increase compliance through enhanced enforcement measures, stiffer  
9 penalties, and public awareness campaigns, with the goal of reducing  
10 dangerous driving conditions and improving law enforcement safety.

11 § 3. Subdivision 12-a of section 375 of the vehicle and traffic law is  
12 amended by adding two new paragraphs (g) and (h) to read as follows:

13 (g) Any person convicted of a violation of this subdivision shall for  
14 a first conviction thereof be punished by a fine of up to two hundred  
15 dollars; for a conviction of a second or subsequent violation such  
16 person shall be punished by a fine of up to five hundred dollars; upon  
17 conviction of a third or subsequent violation, all of which were commit-  
18 ted within a period of two years, such person shall be subject to a  
19 vehicle registration suspension until such time as such person is in  
20 compliance with this subdivision.

21 (h) Law enforcement agencies shall conduct quarterly window tint  
22 enforcement sweeps in high traffic areas to enforce compliance with this  
23 subdivision. Law enforcement agencies shall use light transmission  
24 meters during such window tint enforcement sweeps to assess compliance

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

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1 with this subdivision. Law enforcement agencies may use light trans-  
2 mission meters during routine traffic stops to assess compliance with  
3 this subdivision.

4 § 4. Paragraph 1 of subdivision (c) of section 301 of the vehicle and  
5 traffic law is amended by adding a new subparagraph (c) to read as  
6 follows:

7 (c) A light transmission meter shall be used during the course of a  
8 safety inspection to determine whether any front side window is composed  
9 of, covered by or treated with any material which has a light transmit-  
10 tance of less than seventy percent pursuant to subparagraph (a) of this  
11 paragraph. A determination that any front side window is composed of,  
12 covered by or treated with any material which has a light transmittance  
13 of less than seventy percent in violation of section three hundred  
14 seventy-five of this title shall be a reason for automatic failure of  
15 this inspection.

16 § 5. (a) The department of motor vehicles shall conduct a public  
17 education campaign to inform vehicle owners about the updated penalties  
18 and enforcement procedures for violations of subdivision 12-a of section  
19 375 and subdivision (c) of section 301 of the vehicle and traffic law.  
20 Such campaign shall include, but not be limited to, digital media, mail-  
21 ers, and updates on such department's website to educate drivers on the  
22 dangers of illegal tint and the current tint laws pursuant to subdivi-  
23 sion 12-a of section 375 of the vehicle and traffic law.

24 (b) The department of motor vehicles shall provide free tint cards to  
25 vehicle owners to allow such vehicle owners to independently check the  
26 compliance of their window tints with state law.

27 (c) The department of motor vehicles shall prepare and submit a report  
28 to the legislature on an annual basis. Such report shall include, but  
29 not be limited to:

30 (i) the number of safety inspection failures due to non-compliance  
31 with window tint requirements pursuant to section 301 of the vehicle and  
32 traffic law; and

33 (ii) the number of violations issued for non-compliance with window  
34 tint requirements pursuant to section 375 of the vehicle and traffic  
35 law, including data from quarterly window tint enforcement sweeps.

36 § 6. The sum of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) or so much thereof as  
37 may be deemed necessary, is hereby appropriated to law enforcement agen-  
38 cies out of any moneys in the state treasury in the general fund to the  
39 credit of such law enforcement agencies, not otherwise appropriated, and  
40 made immediately available for the purposes of carrying out the  
41 provisions of this act, including providing light transmission meters to  
42 such law enforcement agencies and training law enforcement officers on  
43 the use of such meters to effectively enforce window tint laws. Such  
44 moneys shall be payable on the audit and warrant of the comptroller on  
45 vouchers certified or approved by the commissioner of motor vehicles in  
46 the manner prescribed by law.

47 § 7. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall  
48 have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or  
49 repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of  
50 this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed  
51 on or before such effective date.