

# STATE OF NEW YORK

4971

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

February 10, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. ZINERMAN, HYNDMAN, GLICK, CUNNINGHAM, BRAUNSTEIN  
-- read once and referred to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to establishing safety requirements for commercial bicycle operators and businesses

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

1 Section 1. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new  
2 section 1244 to read as follows:

3 § 1244. Bicycles with electric assist used for commercial purposes. 1.  
4 For purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the follow-  
5 ing meanings:

6 (a) "commercial bicycle operator" shall mean an individual who is paid  
7 to operate a bicycle with electric assist on behalf a business; and

8 (b) "business" shall mean a person, firm, partnership, joint venture,  
9 association, corporation, or other entity that employs a commercial  
10 bicycle operator.

11 2. A commercial bicycle operator shall:

12 (a) comply with all provisions of law pursuant to this article  
13 pertaining to the operation of a bicycle including a bicycle with elec-  
14 tric assist;

15 (b) use a white headlight and red taillight at night;

16 (c) wear retroreflective upper body apparel with the business's name  
17 and such commercial bicycle operator's three-digit identification number  
18 on the back in lettering at least one inch high;

19 (d) wear suitable headgear; and

20 (e) carry a business identification card at all times when riding on  
21 behalf of the business, which includes the following information:

22 (i) the business's name, address and phone number; and

23 (ii) the commercial bicycle operator's name, photo and three-digit  
24 identification number.

25 3. Any business that employs a commercial bicycle operator shall:

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

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1 (a) assign to each of its commercial bicycle operators a three-digit  
2 identification number and issue to each of its commercial bicycle opera-  
3 tors an identification card that contains the name, identification  
4 number and photo of the commercial bicycle operator and the name,  
5 address and telephone number of such business;

6 (b) provide each commercial bicycle operator with suitable headgear.  
7 Such headgear must meet the standards set forth by the consumer product  
8 safety commission in part one thousand two hundred three of title  
9 sixteen of the code of federal regulations and must be replaced at the  
10 expense of the business if such headgear is missing any of its component  
11 parts or is otherwise damaged so as to impair its functionality;

12 (c) maintain a roster of commercial bicycle operators that are  
13 employed by such business which includes the following information:

14 (i) the name, residence address, date of employment and, where appli-  
15 cable, the date of discharge from employment of each commercial bicycle  
16 operator;

17 (ii) each commercial bicycle operator's unique three-digit identifica-  
18 tion number;

19 (d) equip each commercial bicycle with electric assist with:

20 (i) a bell or other audible device;

21 (ii) a white headlight and a red taillight;

22 (iii) reflex reflectors;

23 (iv) brakes; and

24 (v) a metal or plastic sign in good condition at least three inches by  
25 five inches with the business's name and a unique bicycle identification  
26 number for each bicycle in lettering at least one inch high. The sign  
27 must be affixed to the rear or both sides of the bicycle; and

28 (e) provide safety training. Such business shall provide a commercial  
29 bicycle operator with a certificate of completion upon the completion of  
30 such training. The curriculum of such training shall include, but not be  
31 limited to:

32 (i) the laws governing the operation of bicycles;

33 (ii) appropriate traffic behavior and the laws governing such traffic  
34 behavior;

35 (iii) identification and avoidance of hazards;

36 (iv) pedestrian and motor vehicle safety;

37 (v) bicycle safety inspection and maintenance; and

38 (vi) injury prevention.

39 4. A commercial bicycle operator who violates any provision of this  
40 section shall be issued a notice of violation. The business that employs  
41 such operator shall receive a fine of two hundred fifty dollars for the  
42 first offense. For each subsequent offense such fine shall be increased  
43 by fifty dollars. After the third offense, such fine shall be five  
44 hundred dollars for each subsequent offense.

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