

# STATE OF NEW YORK

6156

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

February 26, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. LUPARDO, WOERNER, JONES, STIRPE, GIGLIO, SIMPSON,  
LEMONDES -- read once and referred to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to exempting  
farmers from commercial driver's license requirements while operating  
a covered farm vehicle

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision 8 of section 501-a of the vehicle and traffic  
2 law, as added by section 3 of part E of chapter 58 of the laws of 2016,  
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 8. Covered farm vehicle. (a) A vehicle or combination of vehicles  
5 registered in this state, which (i) displays a covered farm vehicle  
6 designation issued by the commissioner, (ii) is operated by the owner or  
7 operator of a farm or ranch, or an employee or family member of an owner  
8 or operator of a farm or ranch, (iii) is used to transport agricultural  
9 commodities, livestock, machinery or supplies to or from a farm or  
10 ranch, (iv) is not used in for-hire motor carrier operations, exclusive  
11 of operation by a tenant pursuant to a crop share farm lease agreement  
12 to transport the landlord's portion of the crops under that agreement;  
13 and (v) is not used for the transportation of hazardous materials.

14 (b) A covered farm vehicle with a gross vehicle weight or gross vehi-  
15 cle weight rating, whichever is greater, of more than twenty-six thou-  
16 sand pounds may only be operated within one hundred fifty air miles of  
17 the farm or ranch.

18 (c) [~~The commissioner shall, by regulation, designate an endorsement  
19 or endorsements for the operation of covered farm vehicles with a gross  
20 vehicle weight or gross vehicle weight rating of more than twenty six  
21 thousand pounds. Such endorsement or endorsements shall be required to  
22 operate such a covered farm vehicle or combination of covered farm vehi-  
23 cles. The identification and scope of such endorsement or endorsements  
24 shall, at a minimum, include a distinction between the operation of a~~

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

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~~1 covered farm vehicle having a gross vehicle weight or gross vehicle  
2 weight rating of more than twenty-six thousand pounds and the operation  
3 of a combination of covered farm vehicles having a gross vehicle weight  
4 or gross vehicle weight rating of more than twenty-six thousand pounds.~~

5 ~~(d)~~] For the purposes of this subdivision, the gross vehicle weight of  
6 a vehicle shall mean the actual weight of the vehicle and the load.

7 § 2. Paragraph (d) of subdivision 2 of section 501 of the vehicle and  
8 traffic law is amended by adding a new subparagraph (iii) to read as  
9 follows:

10 (iii) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this subdivision, a  
11 motor vehicle or combination of vehicles that is a covered farm vehicle,  
12 as defined by subdivision eight of section five hundred one-a of this  
13 article, that is operated by a farmer pursuant to section 383.3(d) of  
14 title 49 of the code of federal regulations within one hundred fifty  
15 miles of such farmer's farm, may be operated with any class license  
16 other than a class DJ, M or MJ license.

17 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.