

# STATE OF NEW YORK

10463

## IN SENATE

May 15, 2026

Introduced by Sen. BROUK -- 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 forms of identification cards and licenses of peace corps volunteers

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

1 Section 1. Subparagraph (i) of paragraph (a) and paragraph (b) of  
2 subdivision 3 of section 490 of the vehicle and traffic law, subpara-  
3 graph (i) of paragraph (a) as amended by chapter 487 of the laws of  
4 2012, and paragraph (b) as amended by section 97 of part PP of chapter  
5 56 of the laws of 2022, are amended to read as follows:

6 (i) The commissioner shall upon submission of an appropriate applica-  
7 tion, upon payment of the prescribed fee, and upon being satisfied that  
8 the person described is the applicant and that such applicant meets the  
9 requirements set forth in subdivision two of this section, issue to such  
10 applicant a nontransferable identification card. In addition, the  
11 commissioner also shall require that an applicant for an identification  
12 card or renewal thereof provide [~~his or her~~] their social security  
13 number. The commissioner shall provide space so that an applicant may  
14 request a notation upon such identification card that [~~he or she~~] such  
15 applicant is a veteran of the United States armed forces or a returned  
16 peace corps volunteer.

17 (b) The identification card shall contain a distinguishing number or  
18 mark and adequate space upon which an anatomical gift, pursuant to arti-  
19 cle forty-three of the public health law, by the holder may be recorded  
20 and shall contain such other information and shall be issued in such  
21 form as the commissioner shall determine; provided, however, every iden-  
22 tification card or renewal thereof issued to a person under the age of  
23 twenty-one years shall have prominently imprinted thereon the statement  
24 "UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE" in notably distinctive print or format.  
25 Provided, further, however, that every identification card issued to an  
26 applicant who was a member of the armed forces of the United States and  
27 (i) received an honorable discharge or was released therefrom under  
28 honorable conditions, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in

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

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1 section one of the veterans' services law, and has received a discharge  
2 other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a  
3 discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the veterans'  
4 services law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or  
5 dishonorable from such service, shall, upon [~~his or her~~] such appli-  
6 cant's request and submission of proof as set forth herein, contain a  
7 distinguishing mark, in such form as the commissioner shall determine,  
8 indicating that [~~he or she~~] such applicant is a veteran. Such proof  
9 shall consist of a certificate of release or discharge from active duty  
10 including but not limited to a DD Form 214 or other proof satisfactory  
11 to the commissioner. Provided, further, however, that every identifica-  
12 tion card issued to an applicant who is a returned peace corps volunteer  
13 shall, upon such applicant's request and submission of proof as set  
14 forth herein, contain a distinguishing mark, in such form as the commis-  
15 sioner shall determine, indicating that such applicant is a returned  
16 peace corps volunteer. Such proof shall consist of a certification  
17 issued by the United States peace corps verifying the applicant's satis-  
18 factory completion of service, which may be in the form of a certificate  
19 or description of service signed by the country director or other  
20 authorized peace corps official, or equivalent documentation issued by  
21 the peace corps evidencing satisfactory completion of service. The  
22 commissioner shall not require fees for the issuance of such identifica-  
23 tion cards or renewals thereof to persons under twenty-one years of age  
24 which are different from the fees required for the issuance of identifi-  
25 cation cards or renewals thereof to persons twenty-one years of age or  
26 over, nor fees to persons requesting a veteran or returned peace corps  
27 volunteer distinguishing mark which are different from fees that would  
28 otherwise be required. Provided, however, that notwithstanding the  
29 provisions of section four hundred ninety-one of this article, the  
30 commissioner shall not require any fees for the duplication or amendment  
31 of an identification card prior to its renewal if such duplication or  
32 amendment was solely for the purpose of adding a veteran or returned  
33 peace corps volunteer distinguishing mark to such identification card.

34 § 2. Subdivision 1 of section 502 of the vehicle and traffic law, as  
35 amended by chapter 597 of the laws of 2025, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

37 1. Application for license. Application for a driver's license shall  
38 be made to the commissioner. The fee prescribed by law may be submitted  
39 with such application. The applicant shall furnish such proof of identi-  
40 ty, age, and fitness as may be required by the commissioner. With  
41 respect to a non-commercial driver's license or learner's permit which  
42 does not meet federal standards for identification, in addition to the  
43 acceptable proofs of age and identity approved by the commissioner as of  
44 January first, two thousand nineteen, acceptable proof of identity shall  
45 also include, but not be limited to, a valid, unexpired foreign passport  
46 issued by the applicant's country of citizenship (which shall also be  
47 eligible as proof of age), a valid, unexpired consular identification  
48 document issued by a consulate from the applicant's country of citizen-  
49 ship, or a valid foreign driver's license that includes a photo image of  
50 the applicant and which is unexpired or expired for less than twenty-  
51 four months of its date of expiration, as primary forms of such proof.  
52 Nothing contained in this subdivision shall be deemed to preclude the  
53 commissioner from approving additional proofs of identity and age. The  
54 license shall display the sex designation of M, F, or X as certified by  
55 the applicant, with no additional documentation required. The applicant  
56 may amend the sex designation of their driver's license upon request.

1 Upon amendment of the sex designation, the change shall be made consist-  
2 ent through all affiliated records within the control of the department.  
3 The commissioner may also provide that the application procedure shall  
4 include the taking of a photo image or images of the applicant in  
5 accordance with rules and regulations prescribed by the commissioner. In  
6 addition, the commissioner also shall require that the applicant provide  
7 such applicant's social security number or, in lieu thereof, with  
8 respect to an application for a non-commercial driver's license or  
9 learner's permit which does not meet federal standards for identifica-  
10 tion, an affidavit signed by such applicant that they have not been  
11 issued a social security number. The commissioner also shall provide  
12 space on the application so that the applicant may request a notation  
13 upon such license that such applicant is a veteran of the United States  
14 armed forces or a returned peace corps volunteer, and space on the  
15 application so that the applicant may request a notation upon such  
16 license that such person is a veteran of the United States armed forces  
17 or a returned peace corps volunteer, and space on the application so  
18 that the applicant may register in the New York state organ and tissue  
19 donor registry under section forty-three hundred ten of the public  
20 health law with the following stated on the application in clear and  
21 conspicuous type:

22 "You must fill out the following section: Would you like to be added  
23 to the Donate Life Registry? Check box for 'yes' or 'skip this ques-  
24 tion'."

25 The commissioner of health shall not maintain records of any person  
26 who checks "skip this question". Except where the application is made in  
27 person or electronically, failure to check a box shall not impair the  
28 validity of an application, and failure to check "yes" or checking "skip  
29 this question" shall not be construed to imply a wish not to donate. In  
30 the case of an applicant under eighteen years of age, checking "yes"  
31 shall not constitute consent to make an anatomical gift or registration  
32 in the donate life registry, except as otherwise provided pursuant to  
33 the provisions of paragraph (b) of subdivision one of section forty-  
34 three hundred one of the public health law. Where an applicant has  
35 previously consented to make an anatomical gift or registered in the  
36 donate life registry, checking "skip this question" or failing to check  
37 a box shall not impair that consent or registration. Additionally, the  
38 commissioner shall ensure that space is provided on the application for  
39 a driver's license or renewal thereof to advise applicants of the exist-  
40 ence of the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program established in  
41 42 U.S.C. Section 274k or the national marrow donor program ("registry  
42 operator") and to allow for applicants to consent to sharing their  
43 information with the registry operator for the purposes of receiving  
44 information from the registry operator about enrolling as a potential  
45 volunteer bone marrow or blood cell donor on the national registry. Such  
46 information related to the consenting applicant shared with the registry  
47 operator shall be limited to first and last name, date of birth, email  
48 address, and physical address. In addition, an applicant for a commer-  
49 cial driver's license who will operate a commercial motor vehicle in  
50 interstate commerce shall certify that such applicant meets the require-  
51 ments to operate a commercial motor vehicle, as set forth in public law  
52 99-570, title XII, and title 49 of the code of federal regulations, and  
53 all regulations promulgated by the United States secretary of transpor-  
54 tation under the hazardous materials transportation act. In addition, an  
55 applicant for a commercial driver's license shall submit a medical  
56 certificate at such intervals as required by the federal motor carrier

1 safety improvement act of 1999 and Part 383.71(h) of title 49 of the  
2 code of federal regulations relating to medical certification and in a  
3 manner prescribed by the commissioner. For purposes of this section and  
4 sections five hundred three, five hundred ten-a, and five hundred ten-aa  
5 of this title, the terms "medical certificate" and "medical certifi-  
6 cation" shall mean a form substantially in compliance with the form set  
7 forth in Part 391.43(h) of title 49 of the code of federal regulations.  
8 Upon a determination that the holder of a commercial driver's license  
9 has made any false statement, with respect to the application for such  
10 license, the commissioner shall revoke such license.

11 § 3. Subdivision 1 of section 504 of the vehicle and traffic law is  
12 amended by adding a new paragraph (a-2) to read as follows:

13 (a-2) Every license or renewal thereof issued to an applicant who is a  
14 returned peace corps volunteer shall, upon such applicant's request and  
15 submission of proof as set forth herein, contain a distinguishing mark,  
16 in such form as the commissioner shall determine, indicating that such  
17 applicant is a returned peace corps volunteer. Such proof shall consist  
18 of a certification issued by the United States peace corps verifying the  
19 applicant's satisfactory completion of service, which may be in the form  
20 of a certificate or description of service signed by the country direc-  
21 tor or other authorized peace corps official, or equivalent documenta-  
22 tion issued by the peace corps evidencing satisfactory completion of  
23 service. The commissioner shall not require fees for the issuance of  
24 such licenses or renewals thereof to persons requesting a returned peace  
25 corps volunteer notation which is different from fees otherwise  
26 required; provided, however, that notwithstanding the provisions of this  
27 section, the commissioner shall not require fees for a duplication or  
28 amendment of a license prior to its renewal if such duplication or  
29 amendment was solely for the purpose of adding a returned peace corps  
30 volunteer distinguishing mark to such license.

31 § 4. Section 508 of the vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a  
32 new subdivision 8 to read as follows:

33 8. The commissioner is directed to establish a process by which the  
34 department shall refer driver's license and non-driver identification  
35 card applicants requesting and obtaining a notation upon such license or  
36 non-driver identification card that such applicant is a returned peace  
37 corps volunteer pursuant to subdivision three of section four hundred  
38 ninety of this chapter or subdivision one of section five hundred two of  
39 this article, upon such applicant's request, to the peace corps.

40 § 5. This act shall take effect one year after it shall have become a  
41 law; provided, however, that the amendments to subdivision 1 of section  
42 502 of the vehicle and traffic law made by section two of this act shall  
43 take effect on the same date and in the same manner as chapter 597 of  
44 the laws of 2025, takes effect. Effective immediately, the addition,  
45 amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the  
46 implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be  
47 made and completed on or before such effective date.