# STATE OF NEW YORK

10623

# IN SENATE

June 1, 2026

Introduced by Sen. BYNOE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to establishing a highway safety corridor on the Southern State Parkway

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

Section 1. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new article 34-E to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 34-E**

**SOUTHERN STATE PARKWAY HIGHWAY SAFETY CORRIDOR**

**Section 1300. Legislative intent.**
**1301. Definitions.**
**1302. Southern State Parkway highway safety corridor.**
**1303. Traffic control signs.**
**1304. Enhanced traffic enforcement.**
**1305. Reporting requirements.**

**§ 1300. Legislative intent. The legislature hereby finds and declares that the Southern State Parkway has experienced a significant number of speeding-related crashes and reckless driving incidents, injuries, and fatalities, creating substantial risks to motorists and the general public. The legislature further finds that the New York State Police have undertaken targeted traffic safety initiatives, including "Operation Southern Shield," to increase enforcement and reduce dangerous driving behavior along the Southern State Parkway. The legislature therefore declares that designating a highway safety corridor along a portion of the Southern State Parkway, together with enhanced enforcement, traffic safety monitoring, and public notification measures, is necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.**

**§ 1301. Definitions. As used in this article:**

**1. "Commissioner" shall mean the commissioner of the department of transportation.**

**2. "Southern State Parkway highway safety corridor" shall mean the portion of the Southern State Parkway between exit seventeen and exit thirty-one.**

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

LBD07012-05-6

3. "Highway safety corridor", or "corridor", shall mean a section of a highway which has a dangerous traffic and accident history necessitating increased penalties and enhanced enforcement to mitigate future incidents.

§ 1302. Southern State Parkway highway safety corridor. The area of the Southern State Parkway between exit seventeen and exit thirty-one is hereby designated a highway safety corridor for the purposes of this article.

§ 1303. Traffic control signs. 1. The commissioner shall install and maintain signage identifying the beginning and the end of the Southern State Parkway highway safety corridor, pursuant to this article.

2. A sign reading "HIGHWAY SAFETY CORRIDOR - FINES DOUBLED" shall be installed at the beginning of the corridor and after each interchange along such corridor, pursuant to this article.

3. A sign reading "END HIGHWAY SAFETY CORRIDOR" shall be installed immediately at the end of the corridor.

4. All signage pursuant to this section shall conform to the manual on traffic control devices maintained pursuant to section one thousand six hundred eighty of this chapter.

§ 1304. Enhanced traffic enforcement. The superintendent of state police, in consultation with the commissioner, may provide enhanced enforcement activities within the Southern State Parkway highway safety corridor, including enforcement initiatives consistent with the objectives of the state police "Operation Southern Shield" initiative.

§ 1305. Reporting requirements. 1. The commissioner, in consultation with the superintendent of the state police, shall prepare and publish an annual report regarding the Southern State Parkway highway safety corridor. Upon completion, such report shall be made available to relevant stakeholders, including but not limited to the Nassau County Police Department, local police departments, and local, state, and federal transportation authorities.

2. Such report shall include, but not be limited to:

(a) the number of crashes, including the severity of such crashes occurring within the corridor;

(b) the number of injuries and fatalities occurring within the corridor;

(c) the number and type of traffic citations issued within the corridor;

(d) traffic volume and speed data, where available;

(e) enforcement activities conducted within the corridor;

(f) general trends observed pertaining to the aforementioned collected data; and

(g) recommendations for roadway safety improvements, where applicable.

§ 2. Subdivision (f) of section 1180 of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by chapter 432 of the laws of 1997, is amended to read as follows:

(f) Except as provided in subdivision (g) of this section and except when a special hazard exists that requires lower speed for compliance with subdivision (a) or (e) of this section or when a lower maximum speed limit has been established, no person shall drive a vehicle through a highway construction or maintenance work area at a speed in excess of the posted work area speed limit or through a highway safety corridor in excess of the posted highway safety corridor speed limit. The agency having jurisdiction over the affected street or highway may establish work area speed limits or highway safety corridor speed limits which are less than the normally posted speed limits; provided, however,

that such normally posted speed limit may exceed the work area speed limit **or highway safety corridor speed limit** by no more than twenty miles per hour; and provided further that no such work area speed limit **or highway safety corridor speed limit** may be established at less than twenty-five miles per hour.

§ 3. Subdivision 1 of section 1809-d of the vehicle and traffic law, as added by chapter 223 of the laws of 2005, is amended to read as follows:

1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, whenever proceedings in an administrative tribunal or court result in a finding of liability or conviction for a violation of paragraph two of subdivision (d) or subdivision (f) of section eleven hundred eighty **or article thirty-four-E** of this chapter or any other statute, local law, ordinance or rule involving the maximum speed limits in highway construction [~~or~~] **areas,** maintenance work areas, **or highway safety corridors,** there shall be levied a mandatory surcharge in addition to any other sentence, fine or penalty otherwise permitted or required, in the amount of fifty dollars. Such surcharge shall not be deemed a monetary penalty for the purposes of section two hundred thirty-seven of this chapter or section 19-203 of the administrative code of the city of New York.

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