



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

NEW YORK STATE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION



Senator Timothy M. Kennedy
Chair

**THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK**



TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY
SENATOR, 63RD DISTRICT

CHAIRMAN
TRANSPORTATION
SELECT COMMITTEE ON
STATE-NATIVE AMERICAN RELATIONS

COMMITTEES
BANKS
ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS
FINANCE
INSURANCE
INTERNET AND TECHNOLOGY
RULES

ALBANY OFFICE:
ROOM 708
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247
(518) 455-2426 OFFICE
(518) 426-6851 FAX

DISTRICT OFFICE:
37 FRANKLIN ST., SUITE 550
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202
(716) 826-2683 OFFICE
(716) 826-2793 FAX

E-MAIL ADDRESS:
KENNEDY@NYSenate.GOV

December 21, 2020

The Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins
Temporary President and Majority Leader
New York State Senate
Albany, NY 12247

Dear Senator Stewart-Cousins:

I am pleased to transmit the Annual Report of the Senate's Standing Committee on Transportation for the 2020 Legislative Session. As Chair, I am proud to continue to lead our efforts to address important matters under my committee's jurisdiction.

During the 2020 session, this committee met six times in session and reported sixty eight bills. The Committee also held one hearing this past year.

I thank my colleagues who served on the Committee for their efforts and support of the work that was done in the committee this year, and I thank you for the continued support from the Majority Conference in the committee's operations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy M. Kennedy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Timothy" and last name "Kennedy" clearly legible.

Timothy M. Kennedy

2020 LEGISLATIVE SESSION REPORT
NEW YORK STATE SENATE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Senator Timothy M. Kennedy, Chairperson

Committee Members

Timothy Kennedy, <i>Chair</i> Brian Benjamin David Carlucci Anna Kaplan Todd Kaminsky John Liu Roxanne Persaud Jessica Ramos Luis Sepulveda James Skoufis	Joseph Robach, <i>Ranking Member</i> Thomas O'Mara Michael Ranzenhofer Patrick Gallivan George Borrello
--	---

Committee Staff

Daniel Ranellone, Senior Counsel
David Frazier, Director of Expenditures and Debt
Rick Rodgers, Committee Director

COMMITTEE JURISDICTION AND OVERVIEW

The New York State Senate Standing Committee on Transportation has legislative oversight responsibilities for issues concerning canals, highways, navigation, transportation authorities, railroads, rapid transit, aviation, and vehicle and traffic laws.

During the 2020 Legislative Session, 477 bills were referred to the Committee for its review. Of these bills, sixty eight were reported from the Committee. Thirty-three were passed by the Senate, and twenty-one passed in both houses. This work was conducted through a series of six committee meetings. A list of all bills that were reported from the committee is provided at the end of this report.

In addition to its regular meetings, the Committee held one hearing. The topic of this hearing was the impact of COVID-19 on the MTA.

COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

The following key bills were acted on by the committee in 2020:

S.6185B (May)/**S.6186B** (Metzger)/**S.6187C** (Gaughran)/**S.6188B** (Gaughran)/**S.6189C** (Kaplan)/**S.6190C** (Martinez)/**S.6191C** (Kennedy)/**S.6192A** (Kennedy)/**S.6193C** (Kennedy)/**S7134** (Hoylman) – these bills made up the package of limousine safety initiatives advanced by the Senate after holding a public hearing on additional safety measures for limousines, and these bills were passed the first month of session. Among these bills included: requiring CDLs for drivers of stretch limos; creating an app and hotline passengers can use to report issues; allowing for immobilization and booting of stretch limos if it failed inspection; requiring alcohol and drug testing of drivers; requiring the use of commercial GPS in stretch limos; and increasing penalties for stretch limos making U-Turns, speeding, or running red lights.

S.5348B (Kennedy) This bill eliminates the ability to suspend a person's driver's license for failure to pay a fine or fee associated with a traffic violation. Suspending a license for inability to pay arguably penalizes poverty. By removing the ability to suspend for failure to pay, New Yorkers will still have to pay a fine if they can afford it, but can rest easy knowing they won't be prevented from going to places like work, the grocery store, the doctors appointment, and others, because of a suspended license due to failure to pay.

S.8663A (Kennedy, Little) This bill creates a first in the state task force to examine the usage of road salt in the Adirondack Park during winter months. The members of the task force will examine and study ways to treat roadways without resulting in saline runoff into area streams, lakes, and groundwater. Recommendations issued by the task force will be mandated, unless the health and safety of the traveling public is at risk.

S.4336 (Carlucci) This bill advances road safety in New York by requiring every passenger of a personal motor vehicle buckle up, including adults sitting in rear seats.

S.6430 (Gounardes) This bill addresses the problem of not every NYC Transit station being accessible, by requiring the MTA to develop criteria for determining how to best prioritize subway stations for accessibility improvements, when putting together its next Capital Plan.

S.8328 (Hoylman) This bill requires NYC transit to provide twenty-four hour service unless a declared state of emergency is in effect. This would address concerns by riders that service may not return to 24/7 once the pandemic ends.

TWO HOUSE BILLS

In 2020, 21 of the 477 bills referred to the Standing Committee on Transportation passed both houses of the Legislature. Of these bills, the Governor has signed seventeen and vetoed three, with one bill currently on his desk.

Bill	Sponsor	Summary	Action
S3860	Lanza	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to allowing the Yeshiva of Staten Island to provide driver education courses in alternate locations	Chapter Number 229
S3998	Gaughran	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to allowing the Hebrew Academy of Nassau County to provide driver education courses in middle school or elementary school locations	Chapter Number 230
S4336	Carlucci	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to requiring mandatory seat belt use for any adult using a back seat in a personal vehicle	Chapter Number 136
S4580C	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to permitting the operation of a three-wheeled vehicle on New York roadways	Veto Number 59
S5348B	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to prohibiting the suspension of a license to drive a motor vehicle or motorcycle for failure to pay a fine	Currently on Governor's Desk
S6185B	May	AN ACT to amend the transportation law, in relation to requiring the commissioner of transportation to establish methods of reporting safety issues with stretch limousines	Chapter Number 5

S6186B	Metzger	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to drug and alcohol testing for for-hire vehicle drivers	Chapter Number 2
S6187C	Gaughran	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to requiring stretch limousines to use commercial global positioning system technology	Chapter Number 11
S6188B	Gaughran	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to penalties for U-turn violations committed by operators of stretch limousines	Chapter Number 4
S6189C	Kaplan	AN ACT to establish the stretch limousine passenger safety task force; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof	Chapter Number 3
S6191C	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to the installation of safety belts in stretch limousines, and the posting of notice therein	Chapter Number 10
S6192A	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the transportation law and the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to stretch limousine safety requirements and changing the class of license required to operate stretch limousines	Chapter Number 6
S6193C	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the transportation law, in relation to allowing the commissioner of transportation to impound or immobilize stretch limousines in certain situations	Chapter Number 9
S7134	Hoylman	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation mandating the use of safety belts while sitting anywhere within a taxi and livery vehicle	Chapter Number 8

S7281	Borrello	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to designating a portion of the state highway system as the "North Dansville Veterans Memorial Highway"	Chapter Number 283
S7565	Ortt	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to designating a portion of the state highway system in Orleans county as the "Charles W. Howard Memorial Highway"	Chapter Number 301
S7740A	Harckham	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to implementing a residential parking system in the village of Croton-on-Hudson	Chapter Number 210
S7775	Ritchie	AN ACT relating to legalizing, validating, ratifying and confirming a transportation contract of the Fulton city school district	Veto Number 58
S7897B	Metzger	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to designating a portion of the state highway system as the "Colchester Veterans Memorial Bridge"	Chapter Number 284
S7923	Serino	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to designating a portion of the state highway system as the "Wappinger Veterans Memorial Highway"	Chapter Number 285
S8119	Comrie	AN ACT to amend the transportation law, in relation to paratransit services within the state and city of New York during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic	Veto Number 54

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

Bill	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Action
S59	Robach	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to designating certain portions of the state highway system in the counties of Monroe and Tioga	Passed Senate Only
S89	Kaminsky	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to authorizing a residential parking system in certain parts of the hamlet of Oceanside in the Town of Hempstead	Passed Senate Only
S123	Ortt	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to distinctive plates for medal of honor recipients	Passed Senate Only
S580	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to establishing the "Fallen Skywalkers Memorial Bridge"	Reported from Committee
S978A	Breslin	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to parking spaces for handicapped persons	Reported from Committee
S1548	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to including part of Ridge Road in the city of Lackawanna as a state highway	Passed Senate Only
S1549A	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to enabling safe access to public roads for all users by utilizing complete street design principles	Passed Senate Only
S1550	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to designating South Park Avenue in the city of Lackawanna as a state highway	Passed Senate Only

S1632A	Skoufis	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to prohibiting the use of any device which affects the operation of a traffic-control signal	Passed Senate Only
S1643	Brooks	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to increasing the fines for dumping snow onto handicapped parking places	Passed Senate Only
S1761A	Brooks	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to establishing first responder safety zones and speed limits in such safety zones	Passed Senate Only
S2761	Comrie	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to a fine for parked or unattended semi trailers or trailers on streets of a city with a population of one million or more	Passed Senate Only
S2773A	Comrie	AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to requiring the metropolitan transportation authority and the New York city transit authority to implement certain standards pertaining to applying and removing coatings from bridges, trestles, elevated subway and railway tracks and stations	Passed Senate Only
S3020	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the transportation law, in relation to requiring military courtesy centers in all airports	Reported from Committee
S3079A	Addabbo	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to providing notice to school districts located in a city with a population of one million or more of certain construction projects	Reported from Committee

S3450B	Stavisky	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to the displaying of a bus driver's credentials while he or she is on duty and the review of his or her files	Passed Senate Only
S3466	Griffo	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to authorizing the town of Deerfield in Oneida county to transfer jurisdiction of a road to the state	Passed Senate Only
S3557	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to civil penalties imposed upon motor carriers for failure to comply with provisions relating to bus drivers	Passed Senate Only
S3656	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to various transportation authorities	Reported from Committee
S3860	Lanza	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to allowing the Yeshiva of Staten Island to provide driver education courses in alternate locations	Chapter Number 229
S3998	Gaughran	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to allowing the Hebrew Academy of Nassau County to provide driver education courses in middle school or elementary school locations	Chapter Number 230
S4089A	Thomas	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law and the public officers law, in relation to authorizing political subdivisions and certain public authorities to establish demonstration programs implementing railroad grade crossing monitoring systems by means of photo devices; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof	Passed Senate Only

S4104A	Skoufis	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to the solicitation of donations on state highways	Reported from Committee
S4189A	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the transportation law, in relation to requiring the department of transportation to maintain a website or webpage where users may report defects on state highways and bridges	Reported from Committee
S4334B	Metzger	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to designating a portion of the state highway system in Ulster county as the "Officer Gary Pietropaolo Memorial Highway"	Passed Senate Only
S4336	Carlucci	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to requiring mandatory seat belt use for any adult using a back seat in a personal vehicle	Chapter Number 136
S4522	Gounardes	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to wrongful towing	Reported from Committee
S4580C	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to permitting the operation of a three-wheeled vehicle on New York roadways	Veto Number 59
S5228C	Gounardes	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to requiring instruction in pedestrian and bicyclist safety as part of the drivers pre-licensing course	Passed Senate Only
S5348B	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to prohibiting the suspension of a license to drive a motor vehicle or motorcycle for failure to pay a fine	Currently on Governor's Desk

S5670	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to designating human organ delivery vehicles as authorized emergency vehicles	Reported from Committee
S5671A	Martinez	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law and the penal law, in relation to the ignition interlock program	Passed Senate Only
S5845	Kaplan	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to waiving the annual service fee for distinctive "September eleventh, two thousand one remembrance" license plates for certain first responders	Reported from Committee
S5912	Stavisky	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to eliminating the annual service charge for distinctive plates for members of volunteer ambulance services	Reported from Committee
S5986	Sanders	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to requiring the removal or covering of inapplicable highway work zone traffic control signs	Reported from Committee
S5993	Serino	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to designating a portion of the state highway system as the "Firefighter Tim Gunther Memorial Highway"	Passed Senate Only
S6012A	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to requiring the use of electronic coupling when providing pre-arranged transportation services to passengers	Reported from Committee
S6014B	Kennedy	AN ACT establishing the New York task force on automated vehicle technology; and	Reported from Committee

		providing for the repeal of such provisions upon the expiration thereof	
S6052C	Kennedy	AN ACT authorizing the commissioner of transportation to conduct a comprehensive study on designation of private roads on the University at Buffalo North Campus and public roads in the town of Amherst for the purposes of future autonomous vehicle technology testing	Reported from Committee
S6094A	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law and the transportation law, in relation to work zone safety; and to amend the state finance law, in relation to establishing the work zone safety fund	Passed Senate Only
S6185B	May	AN ACT to amend the transportation law, in relation to requiring the commissioner of transportation to establish methods of reporting safety issues with stretch limousines	Chapter Number 5
S6186B	Metzger	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to drug and alcohol testing for for-hire vehicle drivers	Chapter Number 2
S6187C	Gaughran	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to requiring stretch limousines to use commercial global positioning system technology	Chapter Number 11
S6188B	Gaughran	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to penalties for U-turn violations committed by operators of stretch limousines	Chapter Number 4
S6189C	Kaplan	AN ACT to establish the stretch limousine passenger safety task force; and providing	Chapter Number 3

		for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof	
S6191C	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to the installation of safety belts in stretch limousines, and the posting of notice therein	Chapter Number 10
S6192A	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the transportation law and the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to stretch limousine safety requirements and changing the class of license required to operate stretch limousines	Chapter Number 6
S6193C	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the transportation law, in relation to allowing the commissioner of transportation to impound or immobilize stretch limousines in certain situations	Chapter Number 9
S6229	May	AN ACT to amend the transportation law, in relation to the interagency coordinating committee on rural public transportation; and to amend the social services law, in relation to the transportation of eligible persons residing in a rural area	Passed Senate Only
S7012	Ranzenhofer	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to designating a portion of the state highway system as the "Specialist Four Clarence 'C. Jay' Hall Memorial Highway"	Passed Senate Only
S7077	Martinez	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to designating a portion of the state highway system as the "Firefighter Gerard Patrick Schrang Memorial Bridge"	Reported from Committee
S7134	Hoylman	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation mandating the use of safety	Chapter Number 8

		belts while sitting anywhere within a taxi and livery vehicle	
S7281	Borrello	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to designating a portion of the state highway system as the "North Dansville Veterans Memorial Highway"	Chapter Number 283
S7282A	Borrello	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to designating a portion of the state highway system as the "Staff Sergeant David Textor Memorial Highway"	Passed Senate Only
S7367A	Harckham	AN ACT to establish the New York city watershed road salt reduction task force, pilot plan and test program	Passed Senate Only
S7565	Ortt	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to designating a portion of the state highway system in Orleans county as the "Charles W. Howard Memorial Highway"	Chapter Number 301
S7701	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to increasing the rate paid by the state to a city for maintenance and repair of highways	Reported from Committee
S7740A	Harckham	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to implementing a residential parking system in the village of Croton-on-Hudson	Chapter Number 210
S7775	Ritchie	AN ACT relating to legalizing, validating, ratifying and confirming a transportation contract of the Fulton city school district	Veto Number 58
S7857	Gaughran	AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to establishing distinctive	Passed Senate Only

		"Long Island Sound" license plates; and to amend the state finance law, in relation to establishing the "Long Island Sound environmental fund"	
S7885A	Kaplan	AN ACT to amend the transportation law, in relation to requiring the department of transportation to annually prepare and submit to the legislature certain highway pavement and bridge condition reports	Passed Senate Only
S7897B	Metzger	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to designating a portion of the state highway system as the "Colchester Veterans Memorial Bridge"	Chapter Number 284
S7923	Serino	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to designating a portion of the state highway system as the "Wappinger Veterans Memorial Highway"	Chapter Number 285
S8054	Persaud	AN ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to designating a portion of the state highway system as "Firefighter Steven Pollard Memorial Bridge"	Passed Senate Only
S8119	Comrie	AN ACT to amend the transportation law, in relation to paratransit services within the state and city of New York during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic	Veto Number 54
S8158	Kennedy	AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, the highway law, the transportation law and the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to renaming the Thomas E. Dewey Thruway to the Frederick Douglass Thruway	Reported from Committee
S8328	Hoylman	AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to requiring the New York	Passed Senate Only

		<p>City transit authority to operate its facilities and level of service on a daily twenty-four hour basis unless a declared state of emergency is in effect, requiring the New York City transit authority or the metropolitan transportation authority subway system to require that the levels of service furnished upon the rapid transit facilities maintained in the city of New York provide continuous service for twenty-four hours a day when a declared state of emergency is not in effect, and requiring the metropolitan transportation authority to require the New York City transit authority railroad facilities and levels of service to be operated and maintained on a daily twenty-four hour basis unless a declared state of emergency is in effect</p>	
S8341	Parker	<p>AN ACT in relation to renaming the Newkirk Avenue subway station on the IRT Nostrand Avenue line the "Newkirk Avenue - Little Haiti station"</p>	<p>Reported from Committee</p>



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

NEW YORK STATE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE

TRANSPORTATION