

S05516 Text:

STATE OF NEW YORK

5516

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 24, 2025

Introduced by Sens. HINCHEY, ADDABBO, MAY,
WEBB -- read twice and
ordered printed, and when printed to be committed
to the Committee on
Transportation

AN ACT to amend the railroad law, in relation
to requiring railroad
corporations to conduct a comprehensive safety
inspection when a
freight train is parked in a train yard prior
to traveling on tracks
within the state

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

1 Section 1. The railroad law is amended by adding
a new section 72-a to
2 read as follows:
3 § 72-a. Freight train inspections. 1. Every
railroad corporation which

4 operates any freight train within the state shall
5 conduct a comprehen-
6 sive safety inspection when a freight train is
7 parked in a train yard
8 prior to traveling on tracks within the state.
9 Such safety inspection
10 shall include, but not be limited to, a review of
11 tracks, wheels, safety
12 equipment, including brakes and bearings, and train
13 cars. The depart-
14 ment of transportation shall compare such safety
15 inspection results with
16 the inspection the railroad corporation conducted
17 prior to originating
18 the entire planned trip.

19 2. Every railroad corporation which operates any
20 freight train within
21 the state shall have a minimum of two safety
22 inspectors on either side
23 of a freight train as it leaves a rail yard to
24 observe for safety
25 issues.

26 3. The commissioner shall promulgate all rules
27 and regulations neces-
28 sary for the implementation of this section.

29 § 2. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth
30 day after it shall
31 have become a law; provided, further, that
32 this act shall be deemed
33 repealed if any federal agency determines in
34 writing that this act would
35 render New York state ineligible for the receipt of
36 federal funds or any
37 court of competent jurisdiction finally determines
38 that this act would

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is
new; matter in brackets

[~~-~~] is old law to be omitted.

1 render New York state out of compliance with
federal law or regulation;
2 and provided, further, that the commissioner of
transportation shall
3 notify the legislative bill drafting commission
upon the occurrence of
4 such determination in order that the commission may
maintain an accurate
5 and timely effective data base of the official
text of the laws of the
6 state of New York in furtherance of effectuating
the provisions of
7 section 44 of the legislative law and section 70-
b of the public offi-
8 cers law. Effective immediately, the addition,
amendment and/or repeal
9 of any rule or regulation necessary for the
implementation of this act
10 on its effective date are authorized to be made
and completed on or
11 before such effective date.