

S05516 Text:

STATE OF NEW YORK

5516--A

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 -- committee discharged,
bill amended, ordered
reprinted as amended and recommitted to said
committee

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
4 railroad corporation which
5 operates any freight train within the state shall
6 conduct a comprehen-
7 sive safety inspection when a freight train is
8 parked in a train yard
9 prior to traveling on tracks within the state.
10 Such safety inspection
11 shall include, but not be limited to, a review of
12 tracks, wheels, safety
13 equipment, including brakes and bearings, and
14 train cars. The depart-
15 ment of transportation shall compare such safety
16 inspection results with
17 the inspection the railroad corporation conducted
18 prior to originating
19 the entire planned trip.
20 2. Every railroad corporation which operates any
21 freight train within
22 the state shall have a minimum of two qualified car
23 inspectors on either
24 side of a freight train as it leaves a rail yard to
25 observe for safety
26 issues.
27 3. The commissioner shall promulgate all rules
28 and regulations neces-
29 sary for the implementation of this section.
30 § 2. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth
31 day after it shall
32 have become a law; provided, further, that
33 this act shall be deemed
34 repealed if any federal agency determines in
35 writing that this act would
36 render New York state ineligible for the receipt of
37 federal funds or any

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

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

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