

"P" 14 (2024)

"M" 13 (2024)

Albany, New York

November 1, 2024

TO: All Enforcement Agencies and Magistrates

SUBJECT: Chapter 58 of the Laws of 2024, Part K – Stretch Limousine Equipment
Requirements for Emergencies

Effective October 17, 2024, Part K of Chapter 58 of the Laws of 2024 amends Vehicle and Traffic Law section 375 by adding a new subdivision 56 that requires every stretch limousine to be equipped with an accessible window break tool and an operational fire extinguisher. A window break tool is defined as a tool that can be used to open the windows of a stretch limousine during an emergency. A stretch limousine is defined as an altered vehicle with a seating capacity of nine or more passengers, including the driver, that is used to transport passengers for compensation.

Subdivision 56 further requires that the partition between the driver and passengers of a stretch limousine must provide access to emergency egress if the vehicle does not have other forms of egress, such as a roof hatch.

A copy of Chapter 58 of the Laws of 2024, Part K is attached for reference.

Please share this information with appropriate staff. Thank you.

Mark J.F. Schroeder
Commissioner

Attachment

LAWS OF NEW YORK, 2024

CHAPTER 58

Became a law April 20, 2024, with the approval of the Governor. Passed on message of necessity pursuant to Article III, section 14 of the Constitution by a majority vote, three-fifths being present.

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

Section 1. This act enacts into law major components of legislation necessary to implement the state transportation, economic development and environmental conservation budget for the 2024-2025 state fiscal year. Each component is wholly contained within a Part identified as Parts A through TT. The effective date for each particular provision contained within such Part is set forth in the last section of such Part. Any provision in any section contained within a Part, including the effective date of the Part, which makes a reference to a section "of this act", when used in connection with that particular component, shall be deemed to mean and refer to the corresponding section of the Part in which it is found. Section three of this act sets forth the general effective date of this act.

PART K

Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "stretch limousine passenger safety act".

§ 6. Section 375 of the vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new subdivision 56 to read as follows:

56. Stretch limousine additional equipment requirements. (a) Every stretch limousine registered in this state shall be equipped with an accessible window break tool and an operational fire extinguisher, and the driver and passenger partition of every such stretch limousine shall be accessible to reach an emergency egress from such vehicle if other forms of egress such as a roof hatch are not available in such stretch limousine.

(b) For the purposes of this subdivision:

(i) "Stretch limousine" shall mean an altered motor vehicle having a seating capacity of nine or more passengers, including the driver, commonly referred to as a "stretch limousine" and which is used in the business of transporting passengers for compensation; and

(ii) "Window break tool" shall mean a tool that can be used to open the windows of a stretch limousine in the event of an emergency.