 <b>ALLIANCE OF NEW YORK STATE YMCAs YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT Legislative Bill</b>	<b>ASSEMBLY Bill # 1</b>						
	<b>Referred to Committee: A</b>						
<b>Authors:</b> Baniya Cook, Sydney Robinson, and Haley Barnes	<b>Action on the Bill</b>  <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"><b>House</b></td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"><b>Senate</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed</td> <td style="text-align: center;">___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated</td> <td style="text-align: center;">___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated</td> </tr> </table>	<b>House</b>	<b>Senate</b>	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated
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<a href="http://WWW.YMCANYS.ORG/YAG">WWW.YMCANYS.ORG/YAG</a>							

1                                    AN ACT TO : Teach drivers how to drive in hazardous weather.

2  
3                                    ***The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate***  
4                                    ***and Assembly, do enact as follows:***

5  
6    PURPOSE: To keep drivers safe during extreme and hazardous weather conditions and if driver's  
7    cars malfunction.

8  
9    SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS :

10   Section 1 :

11   VMS: Variable Message Signs; operated and maintained by private companies that display  
12   messages for the New York State Thruway Authority and Highway system.

13   Hazardous weather: Weather that can make driving dangerous, including rain, fog, ice, snow, and  
14   black ice.


15   Fatal car crash: resulting in at least one death

16  
17   Section 2 : Drivers will be provided an online course that teaches first-time drivers and drivers  
18   who come from out of state how to drive safely with extreme conditions like harsh weather  
19   conditions.

20  
21   Section 3 : Emergency manuals will be created and distributed through car dealerships and the  
22   Department of Motor Vehicles.

23  
24   Section 4 : VMS and electronic signage will alert drivers to hazardous weather conditions and  
25   advise them to reduce their speed.

26  
27   JUSTIFICATION: This will provide drivers from other states (when license plates are exchanged  
28   from out of state to those of New York State) and first-time drivers with the information needed  
29   to protect themselves and other drivers during extreme weather such as snow and rain  
30   precipitation. According to the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles Summary of Motor  
31   Vehicle Crashes 2014 Statewide Statistical Summary , there were 299,452 car crashes in 2014 in  
32   the State of New York. Of that number, 966 were fatal. 527,320 vehicles were involved along  
33   with 489,047 drivers and 686,528 vehicle occupants. Of those accidents, 1,026 people were

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1 killed. When analyzing the car crash contributing factors, slippery pavement was responsible for  
2 25,510 accidents. Sadly, 46 fatalities occurred in these crashes, with 8,426 people receiving  
3 personal injuries. 17,038 vehicles incurred property damage. Slippery pavement accounted for 10  
4 percent of the fatal crashes in New York State. The only causes statistically more likely to end in  
5 fatality are unsafe speed at 10.9 percent, failing to yield a right of way with 15.7 percent,  
6 following too closely at 17.4 percent and the top cause of driver inattention or distraction at  
7 19.1 percent. That makes hazardous weather the fifth most dangerous driving condition in the  
8 State of New York in terms of fatal car crashes.

9  
10 Drivers will be taught what to do in case of an emergency, such as the driver’s car slides on black  
11 ice or snow through an online interactive course. The course would be available on the New York  
12 State Department of Motor Vehicles website. Potential New York State drivers could log on to the  
13 website to take the course. If potential driver does not access to the website, there shall be a  
14 computer terminal at the Department of Motor Vehicles for the potential driver to use. The course  
15 would be developed by the Department of Motor Vehicle’s experts on driving safety.

16  
17 To inform drivers what to do during emergencies car dealerships should provide emergency  
18 manual kits in glove compartments or armrest.

19  
20 When there is rain or snow precipitation, the speed limit should be lowered to prevent accidents  
21 and crashes. VMS (Variable Message Signs) should be utilized to inform drivers of speed change.

22  
23 **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:** The online course will have a minimal impact. The VMS are already in place.  
24 This bill could save insurance companies significant money from fewer accidents. By reducing the  
25 number of crashes, the time law enforcement spent on the scene of the crashes helping victims  
26 and completing paperwork would be reduced. The savings could be utilized to print the hazardous  
27 weather manuals.

28  
29 **EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 1, 2018