



MEMO OF OPPOSITION

S8634 (Fernandez) / A9565 (Taylor)

No Bus Lane Enforcement Carve-Outs!

February 27, 2026

TITLE OF BILL

An act to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to excluding violations occurring within a certain distance from a place of worship, funeral home, or similar institution from bus operation-related traffic regulations.

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

Reinvent Albany strongly opposes this bill because it would provide yet another completely unnecessary exemption for bus lane enforcement. Further, it would make service worse for all the bus riders who go to places of worship or funeral homes.

It seems that every day in Albany there is a new bill seeking to exempt certain people from enforcement of traffic laws, with little thought given to how such carve-outs would actually be implemented. Rather than filling state laws with even more loopholes, legislators should seek more practical and effective ways to reduce bus lane violations, such as having NYC DOT create more passenger loading zones.

We urge the Legislature to reject this bill.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS

Section 1 amends Vehicle and Traffic Law §1111-c-1(d)(3) to exclude from enforcement people who block bus lanes within 100 feet of a place of worship or funeral home for a ceremony or funeral.

Section 2 states that the bill takes effect immediately.