



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Kevin Thomas

## Thomas Bill Expanding Protections for Motor Vehicle Leases Signed Into Law By Governor

KEVIN THOMAS September 5, 2019

| ISSUE: **CONSUMER PROTECTION, LEASING**

| COMMITTEE: **CONSUMER PROTECTION**



(Levittown, NY) -- Today, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo signed legislation sponsored by **Senator Kevin Thomas (S4019A)**, which prevents motor vehicle leasing companies from charging “early termination” fees if a person dies before the end of their contract. The new law expands protections for motor vehicle leasees and defends families against unfair contract provisions following the death of a loved one. The bill takes effect in nineteen days.

**Senator Kevin Thomas** said, “Grieving New Yorkers should not have to suffer the indignity of paying an early termination fee for a leased vehicle following the death of a loved one. This legislation creates important consumer protections that ensure that surviving family members are not burdened with unfair fees. I thank Governor Cuomo for signing this bill into law and protecting consumers and their families.”

“Losing a loved one is hard enough – facing an early termination fee on a motor vehicle lease that belonged to a departed loved one is just salt in the wound,” **Governor Cuomo** said.

“Television, internet, and phone providers are already banned from issuing these fees, and with this new law we’re doing the same for motor vehicle leases to ensure grieving relatives will be protected from this additional stress.”

**Assembly Member Aileen Gunther** said, “This law not only serves as a necessary consumer protection but is also the right thing to do for New York families. The idea of having to deal with the death of a loved one and then being charged an early termination fee on a lease agreement is particularly infuriating. This bill will ensure that no family in New York State will be subject to this injustice.”

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#### RELATED LEGISLATION

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### **2019-S4019A**

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- Introduced

- ○ In Committee Assembly
  - In Committee Senate
  
- ○ On Floor Calendar Assembly
  - On Floor Calendar Senate
  
- ○ Passed Assembly
  - Passed Senate
  
- Delivered to Governor
  
- Signed By Governor
  
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Relates to early termination of motor vehicle lease contracts

February 25, 2019

Signed by Governor

Sponsored by **Kevin Thomas**

Do you support this bill?