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## **New York lawmakers OK congestion pricing study**

This story was reported by ANN GIVENS, MELISSA MANSFIELD and KARLA SCHUSTER. It was written by SCHUSTER.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg's congestion pricing plan got a boost yesterday when state lawmakers overwhelmingly approved a study of the proposal, but significant political and practical hurdles remain before New York becomes the first U.S. city to charge motorists to drive in its central business district.

**"This is just a study bill," said Sen. Owen Johnson (R-West Babylon), in explaining why he supported the creation of a 17-member traffic commission that will report back to the legislature in March. "It's good to investigate. The real vote is next year."**