

ASSEMBLY COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 3676

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 7, 2018

The Assembly Commerce and Economic Development Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 3676.

As amended and reported, this bill creates a new Garden State Growth Zone (GSGZ) within an “aviation district,” which is defined to mean all areas within the boundaries of the Atlantic City International Airport and the Federal Aviation Administration William J. Hughes Technical Center, and the area within a one-mile radius of the outermost boundary of that airport and technical center.

Under the Grow New Jersey Assistance Program and the Economic Redevelopment and Growth Grant Program, qualified businesses located in a GSGZ are eligible for enhanced incentives offered only to businesses located in GSGZs such as those located in Atlantic City, Camden, Passaic, Paterson, and Trenton. The amended bill would extend these enhanced incentives to qualified businesses undertaking projects in an aviation district that are approved after the effective date of the amended bill. The amended bill also exempts these businesses from purchasing pinelands development credits under the “Pinelands Protection Act,” the pinelands comprehensive management plan, or any other rule or regulation adopted pursuant to that law in connection with any approval or relief obtained related to those projects.

The amended bill delays the deadline for businesses in an aviation district to apply for the enhanced incentives by three years, from July 1, 2019 to July 1, 2022.

Lastly, the amended bill provides that, in the case of a project located in an aviation district, persons working as an independent contractor for the business who meet certain requirements are deemed full-time employees for certain purposes. A business with at least 15 persons working as independent contractors that meet these requirements may claim each of those persons as eight-tenths of a full-time employee for the purposes of meeting the minimum Statewide workforce total required under the program.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to provide that, in the case of a project located in an aviation district, a business with at least 15 persons working as independent contractors who meet certain requirements may claim each of those persons as eight-tenths of a full-time employee for the purposes of meeting the minimum Statewide workforce total required under the program. The business is also required to provide a report to the authority that identifies the company's number of independent contractors and their contractual or partnering relationship with the business.