

# ASSEMBLY, No. 1237

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2018 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman JOHN F. MCKEON**

**District 27 (Essex and Morris)**

**Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE**

**District 37 (Bergen)**

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**District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)**

**Assemblyman PARKER SPACE**

**District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)**

**Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY**

**District 27 (Essex and Morris)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman Pinkin and Assemblyman Coughlin**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires State parks, forests, and other natural and historic areas to remain open to public for seven days if emergency is declared due to failure to enact general appropriation law as prescribed by NJ Constitution.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning the continued operation of certain State parks,  
2 sites, and areas, and supplementing Title 13 of the Revised  
3 Statutes.

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5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:

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8 1. a. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall  
9 develop a plan for the continued operation of all State parks and  
10 forests, State recreation areas, State historic sites, State natural  
11 areas, and State wildlife management areas during a state of  
12 emergency that is declared due to the failure to enact a general  
13 appropriation law by the deadline prescribed by Article VIII,  
14 Section II, paragraph 2 of the New Jersey Constitution. The plan  
15 shall designate the State employees that are essential to provide for  
16 the services at each State park and forest, State recreation area,  
17 State historic site, State natural area, and State wildlife management  
18 area.

19 b. In the event that a state of emergency is declared due to the  
20 failure to enact a general appropriation law by the deadline  
21 prescribed by Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 2 of the New  
22 Jersey Constitution, the operation of State parks and forests, State  
23 recreation areas, State historic sites, State natural areas, and State  
24 wildlife management areas shall continue and all such locations  
25 shall be open to the public for a period not to exceed seven calendar  
26 days. All State employees that have been designated as necessary  
27 to provide for the government services at each State park and forest,  
28 State recreation area, State historic site, State natural area, and State  
29 wildlife management area shall be considered essential personnel.

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31 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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36 This bill would require that State parks and forests, State  
37 recreation areas, State historic sites, State natural areas, and State  
38 wildlife management areas would continue to be open to the public  
39 for a period not to exceed seven calendar days if a state of  
40 emergency is declared due to the failure to enact a general  
41 appropriation law by the deadline prescribed by Article VIII,  
42 Section II, paragraph 2 of the New Jersey Constitution. The  
43 Department of Environmental Protection would be required to  
44 develop a plan for the continued operation of those locations if such  
45 a state of emergency is declared which would designate those State  
46 employees necessary to continue to provide services.