

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)

Assemblywoman CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER

District 28 (Essex)

Assemblyman TIM EUSTACE

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblywoman PATRICIA EGAN JONES

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.