ASSEMBLY, No. 2581

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 1, 2018

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman RONALD S. DANCER
District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)

SYNOPSIS

Requires Division of Travel and Tourism to establish Internet webpage promoting and advertising ecological and agricultural tourist attractions on division's website.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** concerning the promotion and advertisement of ecotourism 2 and agritourism and amending P.L.1977, c.225.

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

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- 1. Section 9 of P.L.1977, c.225 (C.34:1A-53) is amended to read as follows:
- 9. In the pursuance and promotion of a State policy on tourism, the division, at the direction of the Secretary of State, shall:
- a. Provide and promote adequate opportunities for county and municipal participation, federal agency participation, and private citizens' involvement in the decision-making process of tourism planning and policy formulation;
 - b. Encourage all State, county, and municipal governmental and private agencies to do their utmost to assure the personal safety of residents and tourists both within and without tourist destination areas;
- 19 c. Take whatever administrative, litigable, and legislative steps 20 as are necessary to minimize the problems of tourists in not 21 receiving contracted services, including transportation, tours, 22 hotels;
 - d. Attempt to reconcile and balance the activities and accommodations of the tourist with the daily pursuits and lifestyles of the residents;
 - e. Develop an understanding among all citizens of the role of tourism in New Jersey, both in terms of its economic and social importance and the problems it presents, through appropriate formal and informal learning experiences;
 - f. Cooperate with the Department of Education to promote throughout the educational system of New Jersey an awareness of New Jersey history and culture;
 - g. Ensure that the growth of the tourist industry is consistent with the attainment of economic, social, physical, and environmental objectives in any State plan and county plans that are adopted;
- h. Continuously monitor and evaluate the social costs of growth of the tourist industry against the social benefits;
- i. Emphasize in the State's tourism promotional efforts the high quality of the State's natural and cultural features;
- j. Promote the tourist industry through such activities as Visitors Bureaus and similar county and municipal agencies, and assure that the tourist industry contributes its fair share of the cost of such promotion;

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

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- k. Request and receive from any department, division, board, bureau, commission, or other agency of the State, or any political subdivision or public authority thereof, such assistance and data as may be necessary to enable the division to carry out its responsibilities under this act;
 - l. In consultation with the council, review annually and, if necessary, revise or update the 10-year master plan developed pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1977, c.225 (C.34:1A-52), and submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature containing an evaluation of the preceding year's activities and developments in tourism and the revisions recommended in the master plan;
 - m. At the direction of the council, operate the division's Travel and Tourism Cooperative Marketing Campaign Program; [and]
 - n. Establish and operate the division's Travel and Tourism Advertising and Promotion Program; and
 - o. Establish a webpage on the Internet site of the Division of Travel and Tourism in the Department of State that promotes and advertises State and federal ecological and agricultural tourist attractions located in New Jersey. The webpage shall list each tourist attraction by type of attraction and location and shall include, but need not be limited to, State and federal parks and National Wildlife Refuges.

23 (cf: P.L.2007, c.253, s.6)

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill requires the Division of Travel and Tourism in the Department of State to establish a webpage on the division's website that promotes and advertises State and federal ecological and agricultural tourist attractions in New Jersey. The bill requires the division to list the tourist attractions by type of attraction and by location. The bill also requires the division to include State and federal parks and National Wildlife Refuges on the webpage.