

[First Reprint]

## **ASSEMBLY, No. 4377**

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

## **218th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Assemblyman R. BRUCE LAND**

**District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)**

**Assemblywoman BETTYLOU DECROCE**

**District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)**

**Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Senator ANTHONY R. BUCCO**

**District 25 (Morris and Somerset)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblymen Freiman, A.M.Bucco, Auth, Thomson, Assemblywoman McKnight and Senator Singer**

### **SYNOPSIS**

Requires DOT and OIT to develop materials concerning capabilities of airports in NJ and establishes "Public Use Airports Task Force."

### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Appropriations Committee on December 12, 2019, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/14/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning New Jersey airports and supplementing  
2 P.L.1938, c.48 (C.6:1-20 et seq.).

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
5 *of New Jersey:*

6  
7 1. a. The <sup>1</sup>**['Bureau of Aeronautics in the']**<sup>1</sup> Department of  
8 Transportation, in conjunction with geographic information systems  
9 staff from the Office of Information Technology, shall, within 180  
10 days of enactment of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the  
11 Legislature as this bill), produce a comprehensive and current  
12 directory of airports in New Jersey. The <sup>1</sup>**['bureau']** Department of  
13 Transportation<sup>1</sup> and the Office of Information Technology shall  
14 produce the directory in print and electronic formats and develop an  
15 accompanying mobile application for the directory. The directory shall  
16 include maps and information on the capabilities of each airport and  
17 landing facility in this State.

18 b. The <sup>1</sup>**['bureau']** Department of Transportation<sup>1</sup> shall update the  
19 directory produced pursuant to this section at least once every five  
20 years.

21  
22 2. a. There is established in the <sup>1</sup>**['Bureau of Aeronautics in the']**<sup>1</sup>  
23 Department of Transportation the Public Use Airports Task Force.

24 b. The task force shall be comprised of <sup>1</sup>**['15']** 21<sup>1</sup> members, as  
25 follows:

26 (1) two members of the Senate Transportation Committee,  
27 appointed by the <sup>1</sup>**['Senate']**<sup>1</sup> President <sup>1</sup>of the Senate<sup>1</sup>, and two  
28 members of the Assembly Transportation and Independent Authorities  
29 Committee, appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly, and no  
30 more than one appointment from each committee shall be of the same  
31 political party;

32 (2) <sup>1</sup>the Commissioner of Transportation, or the Commissioner of  
33 Transportation's designee

34 (3)<sup>1</sup> the Commissioner of Education, or the Commissioner of  
35 Education's designee; and

36 <sup>1</sup>**['(3)']** (4)<sup>1</sup> the following members appointed by the Governor:

37 (a) one public member with a background in higher education  
38 administration;

39 (b) one public member who is a representative of the New Jersey  
40 School Boards Association;

41 (c) one public member who is a representative of the New Jersey  
42 Education Association;

43 (d) one public member with a background as a high school  
44 guidance counselor;

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted December 12, 2019.

1 (e) one public member who holds a flight instructor certificate  
2 'with a seaplane rating'<sup>1</sup> issued by the Federal Aviation  
3 Administration;

4 (f) one public member who holds a mechanic certificate, with  
5 airframe and powerplant privileges, issued by the Federal Aviation  
6 Administration;

7 (g) one public member who is an attorney with expertise in the  
8 aerospace industry;

9 (h) one public member who is a personnel recruiter for an airline;

10 (i) one public member who has served as a recruiter for a branch  
11 of the Armed Forces of the United States; **'[and]'**<sup>1</sup>

12 (j) one public member who is a senior member of the New Jersey  
13 Wing of the Civil Air Patrol of the United States Air Force 'Auxiliary;

14 (k) one public member who previously served as a member of the  
15 General Aviation Study Commission, created pursuant to section 2 of  
16 P.L.1993, c.336;

17 (l) one public member who is affiliated with the New Jersey  
18 Aviation Association;

19 (m) one public member who is an aviator with a background in  
20 science, technology, engineering, or math education; and

21 (n) two public members who are representatives of public use  
22 airports in this State'<sup>1</sup>.

23 c. In making appointments to the task force, the **'[Senate]'**<sup>1</sup>  
24 President 'of the Senate'<sup>1</sup>, Speaker of the General Assembly, and  
25 Governor shall give priority to individuals who hold an airmen  
26 certification issued by the Federal Aviation Administration 'or another  
27 piloting credential, as determined by the Department of  
28 Transportation'<sup>1</sup>. All appointments shall be made within 30 days of the  
29 effective date of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature  
30 as this bill). Vacancies in the membership shall be filled in the same  
31 manner as the original appointments.

32 d. The task force shall organize as soon as practicable after the  
33 appointment of a majority of its members, and may meet and hold  
34 hearings at such places and times as it shall designate.

35 e. The members of the task force shall serve without  
36 compensation but may be reimbursed, within the limits of funds made  
37 available to the task force, for necessary travel expenses incurred in  
38 the performance of their duties.

39 f. The department **'[shall] may'**<sup>1</sup> provide professional and  
40 clerical staff to the task force as may be necessary for the task force's  
41 purposes, and the task force **'[shall] may'**<sup>1</sup> also be entitled to call upon  
42 the services of any State, county, or municipal department, board,  
43 commission, or agency, as may be available to it for its purposes.

44 g. In executing its duties under section 3 of P.L. , c. (C. )  
45 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), the task force may consult  
46 with associations, organizations, and individuals who are

1 knowledgeable about the topics and industries evaluated by and  
2 subject to the recommendations of the task force.

3 h. The task force may solicit and receive grants and other funds  
4 that are made available for the task force's purposes by any  
5 governmental, public, private, not-for-profit, or for-profit agency,  
6 including funds that are made available under any federal or State law,  
7 regulation, or program.

8  
9 3. a. The Public Use Airports Task Force established pursuant to  
10 section 2 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this  
11 bill) shall:

12 (1) evaluate the existing operations of public use airports in this  
13 State, including projections for continued operational sustainability of  
14 public use airports based upon current and expected market conditions;

15 (2) develop recommendations for infrastructure initiatives and  
16 transit programs to meet current and expected market demand for  
17 different classifications of aircraft and air transport components;

18 (3) develop recommendations for policy changes to support the  
19 continued operation of public use airports in this State, including, but  
20 not limited to, recommendations for changes to tax structures, changes  
21 to State and political subdivision regulation of public use airports, the  
22 alteration of current State programs, and the development of new  
23 programs to ensure the continued sustainability of public use airports  
24 in New Jersey;

25 (4) develop State and local strategies and recommendations for  
26 growing aerospace industry sectors in the State and ensuring the  
27 economic viability of public use airports in New Jersey, including  
28 <sup>1</sup>["through"] the education and training of new pilots;

29 (5) complete a survey of successful educational programs, that  
30 meet or exceed applicable federal requirements, for the training of new  
31 pilots and aerospace industry mechanics;

32 (6) develop recommendations to expand pilot training and  
33 incentivize aerospace innovation in this State;

34 (7) develop recommendations for the establishment of new  
35 education programs, flight training programs, and aerospace  
36 internships in this State to contribute to the sustainability and  
37 expansion of public use airports and the aerospace industry in this  
38 State;

39 (8) develop recommendations, including specific mechanisms, for  
40 the State, local governments, educational institutions, and industry  
41 stakeholders to share information and collaborate to expand research  
42 and development within the aerospace industry in this State;

43 (9) develop recommendations for specific initiatives to increase  
44 investment and public interest in aviation and the aerospace industry in  
45 this State;

46 (10) evaluate the current operations and performance of the  
47 <sup>1</sup>["Bureau of Aeronautics"] Department of Transportation<sup>1</sup> in the  
48 oversight of the State's public use airports, and develop

1 recommendations for the reorganization or realignment of the  
2 <sup>1</sup>**['bureau] department<sup>1</sup>**;

3 (11) analyze the current assurance requirements imposed by the  
4 Federal Aviation Administration on owners, sponsors, planning  
5 organizations, and other organizations that accept funds from certain  
6 financial assistance programs administered by the Federal Aviation  
7 Administration, and develop recommendations to increase the amounts  
8 of federal assistance received by public use airports in this State;

9 (12) study, with the assistance of the Department of Education and  
10 the New Jersey State Library, the potential for establishing a  
11 coordinated State program that accurately represents the development  
12 and importance of the State's airport and aviation heritage;

13 (13) develop and disseminate recommendations and strategies that  
14 public use airports in this State can utilize to realize cost-savings and  
15 operational efficiencies through the development and deployment of  
16 environmentally responsible, modular infrastructure;

17 (14) study, with the assistance of the <sup>1</sup>**['Department] Secretary<sup>1</sup>** of  
18 Higher Education, the potential and cost expectations for the  
19 development of an enhanced aerospace transportation navigation  
20 system for the State's public use airports, that includes object  
21 avoidance technology and technology for monitoring weather and air  
22 traffic;

23 (15) develop recommendations, tools, and strategies to help ensure  
24 the adequate financing of aerospace businesses, flying clubs, and flight  
25 schools in this State, without regard for operational or organizational  
26 structure under federal or State law; <sup>1</sup>**['and]<sup>1</sup>**

27 (16) develop recommendations to assist the continued  
28 advancement of public use airports as community assets and sources of  
29 business expansion in this State <sup>1</sup>;

30 (17) analyze the feasibility of allowing seaplanes to land in any  
31 appropriately-sized body of water and, within 60 calendar days of the  
32 first meeting of the task force, make recommendations for those bodies  
33 of water that are to be opened immediately to seaplane use in the State  
34 unless the State or a local government specifically prohibits the  
35 landing of a seaplane on the specific body of water; and

36 (18) develop recommendations for the removal of obstructions in  
37 and around public use airports, including restricting the height to  
38 which structures or trees may be erected or allowed to grow, to  
39 increase public safety<sup>1</sup>.

40 b. The task force shall present a report of its findings and  
41 recommendations to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of  
42 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature no later than <sup>1</sup>**['12]**  
43 **24<sup>1</sup>** months after the organization of the task force.

44

45 4. This act shall take effect immediately.