

ASSEMBLY, No. 4553

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 15, 2018

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman GORDON M. JOHNSON

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman ROY FREIMAN

District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)

SYNOPSIS

Affords civil immunity to certain police officers.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/7/2018)

1 AN ACT concerning immunity from civil liability for certain police
2 officers and supplementing Title 2A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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7 1. a. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the
8 contrary, a police officer duly appointed by an independent
9 institution of higher education pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1970,
10 c.211 (C.18A:6-4.2) shall not be liable for damages if the officer
11 acts in good faith in the execution or enforcement of any law.

12 b. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary,
13 an independent institution of higher education shall not be liable for
14 damages if a police officer duly appointed pursuant to section 1 of
15 P.L.1970, c.211 (C.18A:6-4.2) acts in good faith in the execution or
16 enforcement of any law.

17 c. Nothing in this act shall provide immunity from civil
18 liability in excess of the immunity from civil liability provided to
19 other duly appointed police officers.

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21 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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26 This bill affords immunity from civil liability for damages to
27 police officers appointed by an independent institution of higher
28 education if they act in good faith in the execution or enforcement
29 of any law.

30 The bill similarly provides civil immunity to the independent
31 institution of higher education where the police officer is appointed.
32 This bill does not provide immunity from civil liability in excess of
33 the immunity from civil liability provided to other duly appointed
34 police officers.

35 According to the New Jersey State Police Uniform Crime
36 Report, in 2016 there were 36,290 full-time police officers
37 employed in this State. Universities and colleges employed 441 of
38 these officers, 71 of which were employed by independent colleges
39 and universities. These 71 police officers are the only ones who
40 currently are not afforded immunity from civil liability. It is the
41 sponsor's intention that police officers employed by independent
42 colleges and universities are deserving of the same protection from
43 civil liability as all the other police officers employed in this State.