SENATE, No. 2858

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED AUGUST 27, 2018

Sponsored by:
Senator VIN GOPAL
District 11 (Monmouth)
Senator PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.
District 18 (Middlesex)
Assemblyman ERIC HOUGHTALING
District 11 (Monmouth)
Assemblywoman JOANN DOWNEY
District 11 (Monmouth)
Assemblyman GORDON M. JOHNSON
District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:
Senators Lagana and Weinberg

SYNOPSIS
Prohibits issuance of certain badges to NJT board members, PANYNJ commissioners, and local and State elected officials.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT
As introduced.
AN ACT concerning law enforcement badges and badges that may
be mistaken as law enforcement badges and supplementing Titles
27 and 32 of the Revised Statutes, Title 40A of the New Jersey
Statutes, and Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

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

1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the
New Jersey Transit Corporation shall not issue a law enforcement
badge or badge that may be mistaken as a law enforcement badge to
any member of the corporation’s board of directors.

2. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the
Port Authority of New York and New Jersey shall not issue a law
enforcement badge or badge that may be mistaken as a law
enforcement badge to any commissioner of the port authority.

3. a. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a
county shall not issue a law enforcement badge or a badge that may
be mistaken as a law enforcement badge to any county elected
official who is not elected as a law enforcement officer.
   b. As used in this section, “law enforcement officer” means a
person who is empowered to act for the detection, apprehension,
arrest, conviction, detention, or rehabilitation of persons in violation
of the law.

4. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a
municipality shall not issue a law enforcement badge or a badge
that may be mistaken as a law enforcement badge to any municipal
elected official.

5. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a law
enforcement badge or a badge that may be mistaken as a law
enforcement badge shall not be issued to any State elected official.

6. a. Section 2 of this act shall take effect upon the enactment
into law by the State of New York of legislation having an identical
effect as section 2, but if the State of New York shall have already
enacted such legislation, section 2 of this act shall take effect
immediately.
   b. Section 1 and sections 3 through 5 of this act shall take
effect immediately.
This bill prohibits the New Jersey Transit Corporation (corporation) from issuing a law enforcement badge or a badge that may be mistaken as a law enforcement badge to any member of the corporation’s board of directors. The bill also prohibits the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (port authority) from issuing a law enforcement badge or a badge that may be mistaken as law enforcement badge to any commissioner of the port authority.

The bill also prohibits a county from issuing a law enforcement badge or a badge that may be mistaken as a law enforcement badge to any county elected official who is not elected as a law enforcement officer. Lastly, the bill prohibits a municipality and the State from issuing a law enforcement badge or a badge that may be mistaken as a law enforcement badge to any municipal or State elected official.

The bill defines “law enforcement officer” to mean a person who is empowered to act for the detection, apprehension, arrest, conviction, detention, or rehabilitation of persons in violation of the law.

The provisions of the bill take effect immediately, except that the provision concerning the port authority is to take effect upon New York enacting legislation with an identical effect. However, if New York has already enacted legislation with an identical effect, that provision is to take effect immediately.