

ASSEMBLY, No. 4520

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED AUGUST 13, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblyman ANTHONY S. VERRELLI

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Catalano and McGuckin

SYNOPSIS

Temporarily extends deadline to register vehicle and obtain driver's license for new State residents during COVID-19 public health emergency.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 8/13/2020)

1 AN ACT providing temporary extension of vehicle registration and
2 driver's license deadlines for new State residents.

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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 section 1 of
8 P.L.1955, c.53 (C.39:3-17.1) to the contrary, any person who
9 becomes a resident of this State and who immediately prior thereto
10 was authorized to operate and drive a motor vehicle or motor
11 vehicles in this State as a non-resident pursuant to R.S.39:3-15 and
12 R.S.39:3-17, shall not lose the right to so operate and drive a motor
13 vehicle or motor vehicles by becoming a resident of this State, but
14 that right shall continue to be in full force and effect for 120 days,
15 unless a longer period of reciprocity is otherwise provided by law,
16 after establishing residency in this State in the same manner and to
17 the same extent as though the person was a non-resident.

18 b. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1 of
19 P.L.1955, c.53 (C.39:3-17.1) to the contrary, any person who
20 becomes a resident of this State and who immediately prior thereto
21 was authorized to operate and drive a motor vehicle or motor
22 vehicles in this State as a non-resident pursuant to R.S.39:3-15 and
23 R.S.39:3-17, shall register any vehicle operated on the public
24 highways of this State within 120 days of so becoming a resident of
25 New Jersey, pursuant to R.S.39:3-4 or section 2 of P.L.1968, c.439
26 (C.39:3-8.1).

27 c. The extension of nonresident driving rights provided in
28 subsection a. and subsection b. of this section shall apply to persons
29 who become residents of the State during the period of time in
30 which the public health emergency caused by the Coronavirus
31 disease 2019 (COVID-19), established by Executive Order No. 103
32 of 2020, and any subsequent executive orders extending the public
33 health emergency, remains in effect.

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35 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire at the
36 end of the public health emergency caused by the Coronavirus
37 disease 2019 (COVID-19), either upon the expiration of Executive
38 Order No. 103 of 2020 and any subsequent executive orders
39 extending the public health emergency; or, in the absence of a
40 rescission by the Governor, upon the termination in any other
41 manner of the declared public health emergency.

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STATEMENT

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46 This bill provides that a person who is allowed to operate a
47 motor vehicle as a non-resident has 120 days to obtain a New Jersey
48 driver's license and to register a motor vehicle upon becoming a

1 resident of the State, if that person becomes a resident during the
2 Coronavirus 2019 public health emergency, defined as the period of
3 time during which Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, and any
4 subsequent executive order extending the public health emergency,
5 is in effect.

6 Under current law, a person generally has permission to operate
7 a motor vehicle in the State as a non-resident if the person is
8 licensed to drive and has registered the person's vehicle in another
9 State of residence within the United States or certain other countries
10 where the State has reciprocity agreements to honor driver's
11 licenses and vehicle registrations. If a person moves from one of
12 those locations to New Jersey, State law provides the person with
13 60 days to obtain a State driver's license and vehicle registration.
14 This bill only extends that 60-day period to 120 days for people
15 who change their residence during the COVID-19 public health
16 emergency. Upon the expiration of that emergency order, this bill
17 is to expire and every person who establishes residency in the State
18 is to once again have only 60 days to obtain a State driver's license
19 and motor vehicle registration; however, if a person were to
20 establish residency on the day before the expiration of the executive
21 order, that person would continue to have 120 days from the date
22 the person establishes residency in New Jersey.