

ASSEMBLY, No. 5338

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 27, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblywoman YVONNE LOPEZ

District 19 (Middlesex)

Assemblyman ANDREW ZWICKER

District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Assemblywomen Vainieri Huttel, McKnight, Assemblymen Conaway,
Verrelli, Assemblywomen Dunn, B.DeCroce and Assemblyman Mejia**

SYNOPSIS

Requires certain transportation research to consider needs of individuals with physical, sensory, intellectual, and developmental disabilities.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/22/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning transportation research and amending
2 P.L.2019, c.196.

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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. Section 4 of P.L.2019, c.196 (C.27:1B-21.36) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 4. a. There is hereby established within the Department of
10 Transportation, the New Jersey Transportation Research Center,
11 hereinafter referred to as the center.

12 b. The center shall be located within the Department of
13 Transportation, and the center shall award research contracts to
14 New Jersey public research institutions of higher education to
15 conduct the research activities of the center. The award of those
16 research contracts shall be subject to all relevant existing State and
17 federally established public bidding regulations and processes.

18 c. The center shall identify specific areas of transportation
19 expertise for New Jersey public research institutions of higher
20 education, where all research undertaken by the center in that area
21 of expertise is to occur, and shall be subject to all relevant existing
22 State and federally established public bidding regulations and
23 processes.

24 d. The Commissioner of Transportation shall appoint a director
25 for the center. The duties of the director shall include but not be
26 limited to:

27 (1) Administering and operating the center;

28 (2) Overseeing research undertaken by the center;

29 (3) Establishing and maintaining relationships with New Jersey
30 public research institutions of higher education;

31 (4) Supporting New Jersey public research institutions of higher
32 education in obtaining and maintaining University Transportation
33 Center status under the United States Department of Transportation
34 Federal Highway Administration's University Transportation Center
35 Program; and

36 (5) Authorizing competitive bidding for research contracts to
37 include entities in addition to New Jersey public research
38 institutions of higher education, notwithstanding the provisions of
39 subsections b. and c. of this section to the contrary, after making a
40 written determination that the department stands to benefit from
41 additional competition in terms of quality of work product,
42 timeliness of work product delivery, or availability of expertise in
43 one or more specific transportation areas.

44 e. Any contract entered into pursuant to this section shall
45 include a provision that requires research conducted under the

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.

1 contract to consider the transportation and mobility needs of New
2 Jersey residents with physical, sensory, intellectual, and
3 developmental disabilities.

4 f. For purposes of this section, "entities" means an entity that
5 is organized as a non-profit organization. "Entities" shall not
6 include a municipal planning organization or a municipal planning
7 organization-related entity, regardless of whether it is organized as
8 a non-profit organization.

9 (cf: P.L.2019, c.196, s.4)

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11 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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16 This bill requires all transportation research contracts entered
17 into by the New Jersey Transportation Research Center to include a
18 provision that requires research conducted under the contract to
19 consider the transportation and mobility needs of New Jersey
20 residents with physical, sensory, intellectual, and developmental
21 disabilities.