

ASSEMBLY, No. 5348

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 22, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman YVONNE LOPEZ

District 19 (Middlesex)

Assemblywoman ANNETTE CHAPARRO

District 33 (Hudson)

Assemblywoman ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT

District 31 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Assemblywomen Pintor Marin, Reynolds-Jackson, Sumter and Vainieri
Huttle**

SYNOPSIS

Requires racial and gender diversity in membership to be considered for appointments to certain boards and commissions established by statute.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/18/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning diversity in the membership of certain boards
2 and commissions established by statute and supplementing Title
3 52 of the Revised Statutes.

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

7
8 1. When the Governor, President of the Senate, Speaker of the
9 General Assembly, or any other person is authorized by law to
10 appoint a member to a board, commission, task force, or any other
11 multi-member body or entity established by a statute enacted before,
12 on, or after the effective date of this act, P.L. , c. (pending before
13 the Legislature as this bill), the Governor, President, Speaker, or
14 other authorized person, as appropriate, shall make the goal of
15 attaining a membership for such a board, commission, task force, or
16 multi-member body or entity that reflects the racial and gender
17 diversity of the residents of the State a primary consideration when
18 selecting a person for appointment on or after that effective date. The
19 goal of attaining a membership that reflects the racial and gender
20 diversity of the residents of the State shall be a primary consideration
21 by the appointing authority unless that consideration conflicts with
22 the particular circumstances of the appointment to be made or
23 conflicts with the requirements of the statute that established the
24 board, commission, task force, or multi-member body or entity.

25 As used in this section:

26 “Gender” means a person’s sex-related or gender-related
27 characteristics, including one’s gender identity and has the same
28 legal meaning as sex.

29 “Race” means the major groupings into which humankind is
30 divided on the basis of physical characteristics or shared ancestry.

31

32 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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35 STATEMENT

36

37 This bill provides that, when the Governor, President of the
38 Senate, Speaker of the General Assembly, or any other person is
39 authorized by law to appoint a member to a board, commission, task
40 force, or any other multi-member body or entity established by law,
41 the Governor, President, Speaker, or other authorized person, as
42 appropriate, must make the goal of attaining a membership for such
43 a board, commission, task force, or multi-member body or entity that
44 reflects the racial and gender diversity of the residents of the State a
45 primary consideration when selecting a person for appointment on or
46 after the effective date of the bill. The goal of attaining a membership
47 that reflects the racial and gender diversity of the residents of the
48 State will be a primary consideration by the appointing authority

- 1 unless that consideration conflicts with the particular circumstances
- 2 of the appointment to be made or conflicts with the requirements of
- 3 the statute that established the board, commission, task force, or
- 4 multi-member body or entity.