

SENATE, No. 762

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator VIN GOPAL

District 11 (Monmouth)

Senator JOSEPH A. LAGANA

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Turner

SYNOPSIS

Establishes NJ Fuel Cell Task Force to increase use of fuel cells in State.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/16/2020)

1 **AN ACT** establishing the New Jersey Fuel Cell Task Force, and
2 supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. a. There is established in the Department of Environmental
8 Protection the New Jersey Fuel Cell Task Force. The purpose of
9 the task force shall be to develop a plan to increase the use of fuel
10 cells in the State and to provide information, education, and
11 resources for that purpose. The task force shall:

12 (1) serve as a resource to State departments and local
13 governments on fuel cell issues;

14 (2) assist in the growth of fuel cell businesses in the State;

15 (3) increase the use of fuel cells throughout State government
16 departments and agencies;

17 (4) develop a strategy for the development of infrastructure to
18 support the use of fuel cells; and

19 (5) provide information and educational materials to the public,
20 government, and industry about the use and benefits of fuel cells.

21 In conducting its duties, the task force shall consult with the United
22 States Department of Energy and any fuel cell organizations that
23 may exist in other states.

24 b. The task force shall consist of 13 members as follows:

25 (1) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection, the
26 President of the Board of Public Utilities, the Commissioner of
27 Transportation, the Commissioner of Community Affairs, the Chief
28 Executive Officer of the New Jersey Economic Development
29 Authority, who shall serve ex officio, or their respective designees;
30 and

31 (2) the following public members, appointed by the Governor:

32 (a) one member representing a fuel cell advocacy group in the
33 State;

34 (b) one member representing fuel cell manufacturers;

35 (c) one member representing suppliers of hydrogen for fuel
36 cells;

37 (d) one member representing fuel cell vehicle manufacturers;

38 (e) two members of the academic community with expertise in
39 fuel cells;

40 (f) one member representing a manufacturer of stationary fuel
41 cells; and

42 (g) one member with expertise in fuel cell powered material
43 handling equipment.

44 c. All appointments to the task force shall be made no later
45 than 90 days after the effective date of this act. Each member shall
46 serve for four years or until a successor is appointed, and vacancies
47 shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments.

48 The members of the task force shall serve without compensation,

1 but shall be eligible for reimbursement for necessary and reasonable
2 expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties within
3 the limits of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the
4 task force for its purposes.

5 d. The task force shall organize as soon as practicable
6 following the appointment of its public members and shall select a
7 chairperson and a vice-chairperson from among its members, as
8 well as a secretary who need not be a member of the task force. A
9 majority of the membership of the task force shall constitute a
10 quorum for the transaction of task force business. The task force
11 may meet and hold hearings at the place or places the task force
12 designates.

13 The Department of Environmental Protection shall provide staff
14 support to the task force. The task force shall be entitled to call to
15 its assistance and avail itself of the services of the employees of any
16 State, county, or municipal department, board, bureau, commission,
17 or agency as the task force may require and as may be available to
18 the task force for its purposes.

19 e. No later than one year after its organization, and annually
20 thereafter, the task force shall prepare and submit to the Governor
21 and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), the
22 Legislature, a report detailing the task force's plan to increase the
23 use of fuel cells in the State, including any recommendations for
24 legislative or regulatory action that are necessary to effectuate the
25 plan.

26
27 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
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30 STATEMENT

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32 This bill would establish in the Department of Environmental
33 Protection the New Jersey Fuel Cell Task Force. The purpose of
34 the task force will be to develop a plan to increase the use of fuel
35 cells in the State and to provide information, education, and
36 resources for that purpose. In addition to developing the plan, the
37 task force would:

38 (1) serve as a resource to State departments and local
39 governments on fuel cell issues;

40 (2) assist in the growth of fuel cell businesses in the State;

41 (3) increase the use of fuel cells throughout State government
42 departments and agencies;

43 (4) develop a strategy for the development of infrastructure to
44 support the use of fuel cells; and

45 (5) provide informational materials and education to the public,
46 government, and industry about the use and benefits of fuel cells.

47 The task force would consist of 13 members including the
48 Commissioner of Environmental Protection, the President of the

1 Board of Public Utilities, the Commissioner of Transportation, the
2 Commissioner of Community Affairs, the Chief Executive Officer
3 of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, who would
4 serve ex officio, or their respective designees, and public members
5 to be appointed by the Governor who would represent stakeholders
6 and experts.

7 No later than one year after its organization, and annually
8 thereafter, the task force would prepare and submit to the Governor
9 and the Legislature, a report detailing the task force's plan to
10 increase the use of fuel cells in the State, including any
11 recommendations for legislative or regulatory action that are
12 necessary to effectuate the plan.