

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 2479

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 11, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY

District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Holzapfel and Singer

SYNOPSIS

Requires DOH to establish sanitization guidelines for hotels operating in State.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Labor Committee on May 11, 2020, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/14/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning hotel sanitization and supplementing
2 N.J.S.A.55:13A-1 et seq.

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

6
7 1. As used in this act:

8 “Front desk” means the physical location in a hotel where a guest
9 may check-into or reserve a room.

10 “Guest room” means a private room made available by a hotel
11 for occupancy by a guest. A guest room may be comprised of
12 several interconnected rooms, such as a bathroom, living room, or
13 multiple bedrooms, in the case of a suite.

14 “Guest touch-point” means any surface in a public space in hotel
15 that is regularly touched by a hotel or motel guest. A guest touch-
16 point includes, but is not limited to, doorknobs, door handles,
17 counters, desks, tables, chairs, sofas, and electronics.

18 “Occupied guest room” means that a guest is currently checked
19 in to a guest room regardless of whether the guest is physically
20 present in the room.

21 “Public space” means any space accessible to a guest within a
22 hotel including, but are not limited to, the lobby, including a lobby
23 bathroom, a dining area, a hallway, an elevator, and a bathroom. A
24 public space does not include a guest room.

25

26 2. a. The Commissioner of Health shall issue protocols for the
27 sanitization of each hotel in the State. These protocols shall
28 include, but not be limited to, directives requiring ¹**hotel staff**
29 hotels¹ to:

30 (1) maintain continuous 24 hour, seven day a week coverage of
31 a front desk by at least one employee ¹**per every 100 guest**
32 **rooms**¹, and by at least one additional employee per every 200
33 guest rooms;

34 (2) train a front desk employee to respond to a guests’ inquiry
35 related to health and safety, including but not limited to, the
36 location of hospitals in the vicinity of the hotel, emergency
37 telephone numbers, and options for seeking treatment or testing for
38 virus diseases during a public health crisis;

39 (3) ensure that every guest room is cleaned and sanitized and
40 provided with an adequate supply of clean towels, sheets, and
41 pillowcases prior to occupancy by a new guest;

42 (4) ensure that every occupied guest room is cleaned and
43 sanitized every day, and that the room is provided with an adequate
44 supply of clean towels, sheets, and pillowcases and that the towels,

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SLA committee amendments adopted May 11, 2020.

1 sheets, and pillowcases that are changed no less frequently than
2 once every day;

3 (5) ensure that all public spaces are cleaned and sanitized at
4 least once every day, and that all guest touch-points are cleaned and
5 sanitized regularly throughout each day;

6 (6) provide their employees with anti-microbial cleaning
7 products certified by the United States Environmental Protection
8 Agency that are approved for use against the coronavirus disease
9 2019 (COVID-19), other coronaviruses, influenza viruses, or other
10 viral diseases. These products shall be used when cleaning and
11 sanitizing each guest room, guest touch-point, and public space; and

12 (7) train its employees on the proper use of anti-microbial
13 cleaning products and on proper cleaning protocols that maximize
14 the sanitary condition of each guest room, guest touch-point, and
15 public space.

16 b. The Bureau of Housing Inspection in the Department of
17 Community Affairs shall distribute the guidelines developed by the
18 Department of Health pursuant to subsection a. of this section, and
19 shall inspect each hotel in the State for the purpose of determining
20 the extent to which each hotel complies with the provisions of this
21 act and the regulations promulgated hereunder.

22

23 3. The Commissioner of Health, in consultation with the
24 Department of Community Affairs, pursuant to the "Administrative
25 Procedures Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) shall adopt
26 rules and regulations necessary to effectuate the purposes of this
27 act.

28

29 4. This act shall take effect ¹on the first day of the third
30 month next ¹14 days¹ following enactment, except that the
31 commissioner may take any anticipatory administrative action in
32 advance as shall be necessary for the implementation of this act.