

SENATE, No. 2687

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JULY 9, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY

District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

Senator FRED H. MADDEN, JR.

District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

SYNOPSIS

Authorizes creation of “New Jersey Council on Access and Mobility.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 7/9/2020)

1 **AN ACT** authorizing the creation of the “New Jersey Council on
2 Access and Mobility” and supplementing Title 27 of the Revised
3 Statutes.

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

7
8 1. a. There is established in, but not of, the Department of
9 Transportation, the “New Jersey Council on Access and Mobility.”

10 b. The council shall consist of 15 members, as follows:

11 (1) the Commissioner of Transportation, ex officio, or the
12 commissioner’s designee;

13 (2) the Commissioner of Human Services, ex officio, or the
14 commissioner’s designee;

15 (3) the Commissioner of Education, ex officio, or the
16 commissioner’s designee;

17 (4) the Commissioner of Community Affairs, ex officio, or the
18 commissioner’s designee;

19 (5) the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development, ex
20 officio, or the commissioner’s designee;

21 (6) the Executive Director of the New Jersey Transit
22 Corporation, ex officio, or the executive director’s designee;

23 (7) the Director of the Office of Disability Services in the
24 Department of Human Services, ex officio, or the director’s
25 designee;

26 (8) the Director of the Division of Aging Services in the
27 Department of Human Services, ex officio, or the director’s
28 designee;

29 (9) the Director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities in
30 the Department of Human Services, ex officio, or the director’s
31 designee;

32 (10) the State Treasurer, ex officio, or the State Treasurer’s
33 designee; and

34 (11) six public members, who have a demonstrated expertise in
35 the coordination of transportation services or independent living
36 services for persons with disabilities or senior citizens, of which:

37 (a) one of the public members shall be a representative of
38 Disability Rights New Jersey;

39 (b) one of the public members shall be a representative of the
40 Arc of New Jersey;

41 (c) one of the public members shall be a representative of the
42 New Jersey Statewide Independent Living Council;

43 (d) one of the public members shall be a representative of the
44 New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities;

45 (e) one of the public members shall be a representative of the
46 Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers, the State
47 University of New Jersey; and

1 (f) one of the public members shall be a representative of the
2 New Jersey Council on Special Transportation.

3 Of the six public members appointed to the council, three shall
4 be appointed by the President of the Senate and three shall be
5 appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly.

6 c. Each public member of the council shall serve for a term of
7 three years, except that, of the members first appointed, two shall
8 serve for a term of one year, two shall serve for a term of two years,
9 and two shall serve for a term of three years. Each member shall
10 serve for the term of appointment until the member's successor is
11 appointed and qualified. A public member who has completed a
12 term of membership may be reappointed to the council. Vacancies
13 in the council membership shall be filled in the same manner as the
14 original appointments were made.

15 d. The members of the council shall be appointed within 60
16 days after the effective date of this act, and the council shall hold its
17 initial organizational meeting as soon as practicable, but no later
18 than 30 days, after the appointment of a majority of its members.
19 The Commissioner of Transportation, or a designee, shall serve as
20 chairperson of the council, and the council shall meet, no less than
21 annually, at such places and times as the chairperson may designate.
22 The chairperson may appoint a secretary who need not be a member
23 of the council.

24 e. Members of the council shall serve without compensation,
25 but may be reimbursed for travel and other necessary expenses
26 incurred in the performance of their duties, within the limits of
27 funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the council for its
28 purposes.

29 f. The Department of Transportation shall provide
30 professional, stenographic, and clerical staff to the council, as may
31 be necessary for the council to carry out its duties. The council
32 shall also be entitled to call upon the services of any State, county,
33 or municipal department, board, commission, or agency, as may be
34 available to it for its purposes.

35
36 2. The purpose and duties of the council shall be to, no less than
37 annually:

38 a. study the transportation services provided to persons with
39 disabilities and senior citizens by the New Jersey Transit
40 Corporation, State departments and agencies, counties, and
41 municipalities;

42 b. analyze all available federal funding programs that may be
43 used for mobility management of and to provide transportation
44 services to persons with disabilities and senior citizens, and the
45 ability of the State to qualify for those funds;

46 c. inventory existing State and federal transportation funding
47 sources used for transportation services within the various

- 1 departments and agencies in the State to study ways to improve
2 transportation services and programs;
- 3 d. coordinate the provision of transportation services across all
4 agencies that have an interest in the mobility of persons with
5 disabilities and senior citizens; and
- 6 e. make recommendations for legislative or executive action to
7 maximize the State's acquisition of federal funding and the
8 coordination of transportation services for persons with disabilities
9 and senior citizens;
- 10 f. coordinate with the Federal Council on Access and Mobility.
11
- 12 3. This act shall take effect immediately.
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15 STATEMENT
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17 This bill establishes the New Jersey Council on Access and
18 Mobility (council).

19 The council is to consist of: the Commissioner of Transportation;
20 the Commissioner of Human Services; the Commissioner of
21 Education; the Commissioner of Community Affairs; the
22 Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development; the Executive
23 Director of the New Jersey Transit Corporation; the Director of the
24 Office of Disability Services; the Director of the Division of Aging
25 Services; the Director of the Division of Developmental
26 Disabilities; the State Treasurer, and six public members, with three
27 to be appointed by the President of the Senate and three to be
28 appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly.

29 The public members are required to have a demonstrated
30 expertise in the coordination of transportation services or
31 independent living services for persons with disabilities or senior
32 citizens and be representatives of the following: Disability Rights
33 New Jersey; The Arc of New Jersey; the New Jersey Statewide
34 Independent Living Council; the New Jersey Council on
35 Developmental Disabilities; the Alan M. Voorhees Transportation
36 Center at Rutgers, the State University; and the New Jersey Council
37 on Special Transportation.

38 The purpose and duties of the council is required to meet, no less
39 than annually, to:

- 40 -- study the transportation services provided to persons with
41 disabilities and senior citizens by the New Jersey Transit
42 Corporation, State departments and agencies, counties, and
43 municipalities;
- 44 -- analyze all available federal funding programs that may be
45 used for mobility management of and to provide transportation
46 services to persons with disabilities and senior citizens, and the
47 ability of the State to qualify for those funds the ability of the State
48 to qualify for those funds;

- 1 -- inventory existing State and federal transportation funding
- 2 sources used for transportation services within the various
- 3 departments and agencies in the State to study ways to improve
- 4 transportation services and programs;
- 5 -- coordinate the provision of transportation services across all
- 6 agencies that have an interest in the mobility of persons with
- 7 disabilities and senior citizens;
- 8 -- make recommendations for legislative or executive action to
- 9 maximize the State's acquisition of federal funding and the
- 10 coordination of transportation services for persons with disabilities
- 11 and senior citizens; and
- 12 -- coordinate with the Federal Council on Access and Mobility.