

ASSEMBLY, No. 2616

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 16, 1996

By Assemblymen CORODEMUS and DeCROCE

1 AN ACT promoting the use of alternative fuel vehicles by permitting
2 such vehicles to use high occupancy vehicle lanes and amending
3 P.L.1992, c.32.

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

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8 1. Section 4 of P.L.1992, c.32 (C.27:26A-4) is amended to read as
9 follows:

10 4. a. To the end that the problems of traffic congestion and its
11 attendant economic, social and environmental costs and effects shall
12 be dealt with in a comprehensive manner, the department shall analyze
13 already existing data related to commutation patterns, including
14 origin-destination data; and shall engage in or analyze comprehensive
15 traffic congestion studies in order to provide for a more complete and
16 detailed picture of the level and sources of congestion on State
17 highways, county and municipal roads, as well as toll bridges and toll
18 roads.

19 b. Based upon this analysis or study, the department shall develop
20 a comprehensive strategy of transportation control measures to deal
21 with congestion and air pollution problems in the State, including but
22 not limited to placing special emphasis on the completion of "missing
23 links" in the State highway system, use of high occupancy vehicle
24 lanes, priority treatment of high occupancy vehicles, the adoption of
25 traffic system management, such as improved signage, synchronization
26 of traffic lights, resurfacing of highway pavements, the use of
27 "intelligent vehicle" highways, the maximum possible use of public
28 transportation and other appropriate measures to facilitate the smooth
29 flow of traffic in the State. No high occupancy vehicle lanes shall be
30 established on a highway unless public transit alternatives are
31 evaluated and marketed for that highway. The department shall permit
32 alternative fuel vehicles to use high occupancy vehicle lanes and shall
33 promote the use of alternative fuel vehicles in high occupancy lanes as
34 a means of reducing congestion and air pollution. For the purposes of

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 this act, "alternative fuel vehicle" means any vehicle that operates on
2 alternative fuel as defined pursuant to the "Energy Policy Act of
3 1992," Pub.L. 102-486 (42 U.S.C. §13211 et seq.).
4 (cf: P.L.1992, c.32, s.4.)

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6 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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11 This bill directs the Department of Transportation to permit
12 alternative fuel vehicles to operate in high occupancy vehicle lanes
13 throughout the State and promote the use of alternative fuel vehicles
14 in high occupancy lanes as a means of congestion and air pollution
15 reduction.

16 The bill defines "alternative fuel vehicle" as any vehicle that
17 operates on alternative fuel as defined pursuant to the "Energy Policy
18 Act of 1992," Pub.L. 102-486 (42 U.S.C. §13211 et seq.).

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23 Directs DOT to promote use of alternative fuel vehicles by permitting
24 them to operate in high occupancy vehicle lanes.