

# ASSEMBLY, No. 5039

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 19, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman YVONNE LOPEZ**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE**

**District 37 (Bergen)**

**Assemblywoman ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT**

**District 31 (Hudson)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman Tucker**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires correctional police officers to wear body worn cameras.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



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

1 AN ACT concerning correctional police officers and body worn  
2 cameras and supplementing Title 30 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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7 1. The Commissioner of Corrections shall require all  
8 correctional police officers in every correctional facility in this  
9 State to wear a body worn camera while the officer is acting in the  
10 performance of the officer's duties.

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12 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh  
13 month next following enactment.

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STATEMENT

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18 This bill requires all correctional police officers employed in a  
19 correctional facility in this State to wear a body worn camera  
20 (BWC) while the officer is acting in the performance of the  
21 officer's duties.

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23 According to the sponsor, it is beneficial to both the correctional  
24 police officers and the inmates when officers utilize body worn  
25 cameras (BWCs) in the violent, high stress environment of a  
26 correctional facility. The use of BWCs results in deescalating  
27 potentially violent situations, dissuades inmates from assaulting  
28 officers due to the threat of prosecution based on BWC video,  
29 reduces the need for staff use of force, filters allegations from  
prisoners, and provides reliable evidence in legitimate cases.