

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
ASSEMBLY, No. 5075

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

ADOPTED FEBRUARY 24, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOHN J. BURZICHELLI

District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

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District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)

Assemblyman GORDON M. JOHNSON

District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Clifton

SYNOPSIS

Removes New Jersey Fire Engine and Equipment Museum from auspices of DEP and establishes museum as independent organization; makes \$200,000 supplemental appropriation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Substitute as adopted by the Assembly Appropriations Committee.



1 **AN ACT** concerning firefighters, supplementing Title 28 of the
2 Revised Statutes, amending P.L.1991, c.215, and making an
3 appropriation.
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*
7

8 1. (New section) a. The New Jersey Fire Engine and
9 Equipment Museum is hereby removed from the auspices of the
10 Department of Environmental Protection and reorganized and
11 established as an independent, non-profit organization, which shall
12 oversee the permanent fire museum and fallen firefighter memorial
13 to honor New Jersey's proud history of firefighting service and the
14 brave men and women who have sacrificed their lives in the fire
15 service.

16 b. The New Jersey Fire Engine and Equipment Museum shall
17 be governed by a board of directors who shall consist the following
18 members:

19 (1) the Secretary of State or a designee, who shall serve ex-
20 officio;

21 (2) the Director of the Division of Fire Safety or a designee,
22 who shall serve ex-officio;

23 (3) the Executive Director of the New Jersey Historical
24 Commission within the Department of State or a designee, who
25 shall serve ex-officio;

26 (4) one public member appointed by the President of the Senate,
27 and one public member appointed by the Speaker of the General
28 Assembly;

29 (5) one public member appointed by the Governor; and

30 (6) the membership of the board of directors of the New Jersey
31 Fire Museum and Fallen Firefighter Memorial who served on the
32 board prior to the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
33 before the Legislature as this bill).

34 c. The board may, upon unanimous vote of the existing board
35 members, appoint additional board members who shall be voting
36 members.

37 d. Appointments to the board of directors pursuant to
38 subsection b. of this section shall be made within 90 days of the
39 effective date of this act. Each appointed member shall serve for a
40 term of three years. Vacancies in the membership of the board shall
41 be filled in the same manner as the original appointments were
42 made.

43 Members of the board shall serve without compensation, but
44 shall be reimbursed for the necessary expenses incurred in the
45 performance of their duties within the limits of the funds made
46 available to the board for its purposes.

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.

1 d. The board shall organize within 30 days after the
2 appointment of its members. The board shall select a chairperson
3 from among the members. The board shall meet at the call of the
4 chairperson at the times and places it may deem appropriate and
5 necessary to fulfill its duties, except that the board shall meet a
6 minimum of four times per year. A majority of the members shall
7 constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting business.

8 e. The board shall appoint an executive director, who shall
9 serve at its pleasure and shall be a person qualified by training and
10 experience to perform the duties of the office.

11
12 2. (New section) a. The board of directors for the nonprofit
13 New Jersey Fire Engine and Equipment Museum reorganized and
14 established pursuant to section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
15 before the Legislature as this bill) shall have the following
16 responsibilities and duties:

17 (1) to make, amend, and repeal rules and bylaws for its own
18 governance and guidance not inconsistent with State and federal
19 law;

20 (2) to maintain an office within the State as it may designate;

21 (3) to contract for, accept, solicit, or collect any grants, loans,
22 funds, property, or other aid in any form from the federal
23 government or any agency or instrumentality thereof; from the State
24 or any agency, instrumentality, or political subdivision thereof; or
25 from any other public source;

26 (4) to make and enter into contracts, leases, agreements, and
27 purchases necessary for the use, or incidental to the performance of,
28 the board's duties and the exercise of its powers pursuant to
29 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill);

30 (5) to insure against any losses in connection with the board's
31 properties, operations, or assets;

32 (6) to formulate and adopt rules and regulations for the efficient
33 conduct of the work and general administration of the board, its
34 officers, and employees;

35 (7) to institute or cause to be instituted any legal proceedings or
36 processes as may be necessary to properly enforce and give effect to
37 any of the powers or duties of the executive director or the board;

38 (8) to develop an economic development master plan identifying
39 the board's objectives, policies, and programs which will encourage
40 the museum's attraction, expansion, and retention;

41 (9) to support and maintain existing museum facilities and
42 services for the educational or recreational use and benefit of the
43 public;

44 (10) to maintain exhibits and displays to promote and develop
45 public interest and understanding of firefighter history;

(11) to develop, raise funds for, build and operate a fire museum, fire safety education center, and fallen firefighters memorial, and to provide for the display of fire apparatus and equipment, along with the history and documentation available for preservation;

(12) to determine the best course of action regarding museum collections both owned by and lent to the museum including, but not limited to, continuing any current ownership agreements or memorandums of understanding entered into by the board prior to the effective date of P.L. , c. (C) (pending before the Legislature as this bill);

(13) to oversee museum facility expansion, development, and strategic planning;

(14) to address marketing, budget, and fundraising issues;

(15) to conduct educational and recreational programs held at the museum facilities;

(16) to make plans and preparations for preservation and restoration of museum collection pieces; and

(17) to partner with affiliate organizations to borrow and lend temporary or permanent museum collections and to raise funds with these affiliate organizations, which may include, but not be limited to, other museums and similar educational or research facilities.

b. The board of directors may be dissolved upon a majority vote of the board members. Upon dissolution of the board, any collections that were donated to the museum prior to or following the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be returned to the original donors in accordance with existing ownership agreements or memorandums of understanding. Museum collections that were otherwise acquired or purchased as State property shall be placed in the custody of the Executive Director of the New Jersey Historical Commission in the Department of State upon dissolution of the board. The executive director shall determine the appropriate course of action in housing or maintaining the collection.

3. (New section) There is appropriated from the General Fund \$200,000.00 to the board of the New Jersey Fire Engine and Equipment Museum to effectuate the purposes of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

4. Section 1 of P.L.1991, c.215 (C.28:2-26) is amended to read as follows:

1. The New Jersey Fire Engine and Equipment Museum **],** to be constructed at Allaire pursuant to P.L.1987, c.437 , under the auspices of the Department of Environmental Protection,**]** is designated the John P. Caufield Memorial Fire Engine and Equipment Museum.

1 This designation shall be displayed prominently at or near the
2 entrance to the museum.

3 (cf: P.L.1991, c.215, s.1)

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5 5. This act shall take effect immediately.