

[First Reprint]

## **ASSEMBLY, No. 5338**

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

## **219th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED JANUARY 27, 2021

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Assemblywoman YVONNE LOPEZ**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**Assemblyman ANDREW ZWICKER**

**District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

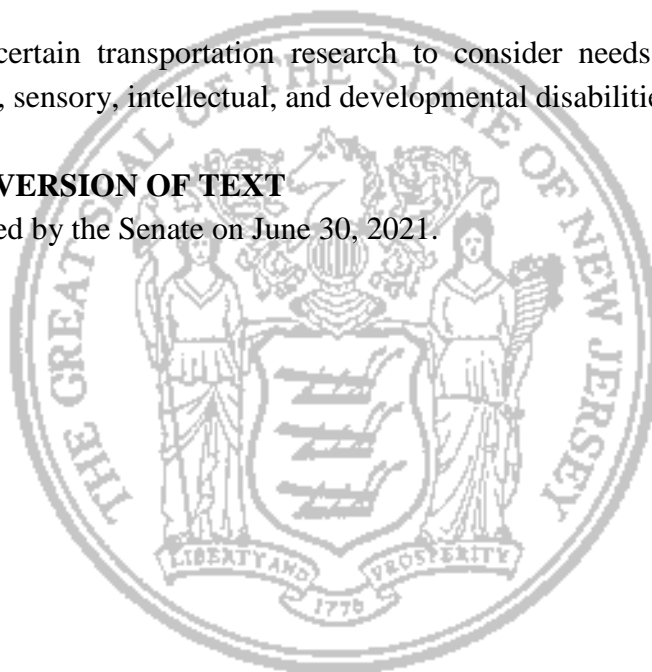
**Assemblywomen Vainieri Huttie, McKnight, Assemblymen Conaway, Verrelli, Assemblywomen Dunn, B.DeCroce, Assemblymen Mejia, Karabinchak, Assemblywomen Downey, Swain, Assemblymen Tully and Freiman**

### **SYNOPSIS**

Requires certain transportation research to consider needs of individuals with physical, sensory, intellectual, and developmental disabilities.

### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As amended by the Senate on June 30, 2021.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/24/2021)**

1 AN ACT concerning transportation research and amending  
 2 P.L.2019, c.196.

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

6  
 7 1. Section 4 of P.L.2019, c.196 (C.27:1B-21.36) is amended to  
 8 read as follows:

9 4. a. <sup>1</sup>**There is hereby established within the Department of**  
 10 **Transportation, the** The<sup>1</sup> New Jersey Transportation Research  
 11 <sup>1</sup>**Center** Bureau within the Department of Transportation<sup>1</sup>,  
 12 hereinafter referred to as the <sup>1</sup>**center** bureau, shall serve as a  
 13 transportation research center for the State<sup>1</sup>.

14 b. The <sup>1</sup>**center** shall be located within the Department of  
 15 Transportation, and the center bureau<sup>1</sup> shall award research  
 16 contracts to New Jersey public research institutions of higher  
 17 education to conduct the research activities of the <sup>1</sup>**center**  
 18 bureau<sup>1</sup>. The award of those research contracts shall be subject to  
 19 all relevant existing State and federally established public bidding  
 20 regulations and processes.

21 c. The <sup>1</sup>**center** bureau<sup>1</sup> shall identify specific areas of  
 22 transportation expertise for New Jersey public research institutions  
 23 of higher education, where all research undertaken by the <sup>1</sup>**center**  
 24 bureau<sup>1</sup> in that area of expertise is to occur, and shall be subject to  
 25 all relevant existing State and federally established public bidding  
 26 regulations and processes.

27 d. The Commissioner of Transportation shall appoint a  
 28 <sup>1</sup>**director** manager<sup>1</sup> for the <sup>1</sup>**center** bureau<sup>1</sup>. The duties of the  
 29 <sup>1</sup>**director** manager<sup>1</sup> shall include but not be limited to:

- 30 (1) Administering and operating the <sup>1</sup>**center** bureau<sup>1</sup>;  
 31 (2) Overseeing research undertaken by the <sup>1</sup>**center** bureau<sup>1</sup>;  
 32 (3) Establishing and maintaining relationships with New Jersey  
 33 public research institutions of higher education;  
 34 (4) Supporting New Jersey public research institutions of higher  
 35 education in obtaining and maintaining University Transportation  
 36 Center status under the United States Department of Transportation  
 37 Federal Highway Administration's University Transportation Center  
 38 Program; and  
 39 (5) Authorizing competitive bidding for research contracts to  
 40 include entities in addition to New Jersey public research  
 41 institutions of higher education, notwithstanding the provisions of  
 42 subsections b. and c. of this section to the contrary, after making a  
 43 written determination that the department stands to benefit from

**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:

<sup>1</sup>Senate floor amendments adopted June 30, 2021.

1 additional competition in terms of quality of work product,  
2 timeliness of work product delivery, or availability of expertise in  
3 one or more specific transportation areas.

4 e. Any contract entered into pursuant to this section shall  
5 include a provision that requires research conducted under the  
6 contract to consider the transportation and mobility needs of New  
7 Jersey residents with physical, sensory, intellectual, and  
8 developmental disabilities.

9 f. For purposes of this section, "entities" means an entity that  
10 is organized as a non-profit organization. "Entities" shall not  
11 include a municipal planning organization or a municipal planning  
12 organization-related entity, regardless of whether it is organized as  
13 a non-profit organization.

14 (cf: P.L.2019, c.196, s.4)

15

16 2. This act shall take effect immediately.