

ASSEMBLY HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3250

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 19, 2023

The Assembly Human Services Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3250.

This bill requires the Commissioner of Human Services (commissioner) to designate an employee as a Transportation Planning Coordinator to oversee the provision of transportation services provided through the Department of Human Services (department).

The bill requires the Transportation Planning Coordinator to be qualified by training and experience, as necessary to perform the duties of the position. The commissioner would have the authority to determine qualifications for the position.

The duties of the Transportation Planning Coordinator will include: (1) overseeing the transportation providers who are contracted by or have otherwise entered into an agreement with the department; (2) monitoring and reporting driver or vehicle issues, such as accidents, safety issues, or licensing concerns as that information is made available to the coordinator; (3) soliciting new transportation providers to serve applicable individuals; (4) ensuring that transportation providers provide timely services as provided by contract or agreement; (5) maintaining records of all transportation services provided to individuals under the department's purview; (6) receiving, reviewing, investigating, and resolving complaints filed with respect to applicable transportation services; (7) conducting internal reviews and investigations to identify inefficiencies or other problems occurring within the transportation system, and instituting revised procedures to address identified concerns or issues; (8) analyzing the costs of transportation services offered through the department and recommending more cost effective methods of transportation, where appropriate; and (9) any other appropriate duties assigned by the department.

Each year, the Transportation Planning Coordinator is required to submit a written report to the commissioner describing the coordinator's activities over the prior year. The coordinator is also required to summarize the public complaints received during the reporting period and indicate the extent to which and manner in which such complaints were resolved.

The bill would take effect on the first day of the 10th month following enactment.