SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT, WAGERING, TOURISM & HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1621

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 13, 2022

The Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1621.

This bill requires that the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 AA, or the most up-to-date version of the guidelines, must be the accessibility standard for the websites of all State agencies, and each website must be configured in such a way that it can be navigated, viewed, and accessed on a smartphone, tablet computer, or similar mobile device.

The WCAG guidelines make content accessible for people with disabilities.

Under the bill, the Chief Technology Officer would establish the protocol by which a State agency can determine that its websites comply with the requirements. The bill requires the Chief Technology Officer to certify each website's compliance two years after the bill's effective date and recertify compliance once every two years thereafter.

As used in this bill, "State agency" means the Executive and Legislative Branch of the State, including, but not limited to, any department, board, bureau, commission, division, office, council, agency, or instrumentality thereof, or independent agency, public authority, or public benefit corporation.