

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1966

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 27, 2022

The Senate Transportation Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1966.

As reported, this bill requires the Department of Transportation (DOT), the New Jersey Transit Corporation (NJT), and the Department of Human Services (DHS) to conduct a holistic review of current infrastructure design practices for public highways and public transportation projects. Upon completion of the review, new and revised design practices are to be adopted that will result in projects that promote the ability of individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder and developmental disabilities to travel independently.

The DOT, the NJT, and the DHS are also to conduct a study of nationwide best practices that identifies ways to operate public roadway facilities, public transportation services, and mobility programs operated or funded under the DHS in a manner that makes transportation services and mobility programs more accessible for individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder and developmental disabilities.

The DOT is required to encourage regional and local entities that apply for funding through the local aid program to adopt infrastructure design policies and best practices that are consistent with State practices.