

ASSEMBLY, No. 3872

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 27, 2024

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ELIANA PINTOR MARIN

District 29 (Essex and Hudson)

Assemblyman CLINTON CALABRESE

District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblywoman SHANIQUE SPEIGHT

District 29 (Essex and Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywomen Peterpaul and Quijano

SYNOPSIS

Requires private bus operators to provide notice and hold public meetings for certain service changes.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/4/2024)

1 AN ACT concerning requirements for certain private bus operators
2 and supplementing Title 27 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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7 1. a. For the purposes of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
8 the Legislature as this bill), “motorbus regular route service” shall
9 have the same meaning as provided in section 3 of P.L.1979, c.150
10 (C.27:25-3), except that “motorbus regular route service” shall not
11 include “charter bus operation,” “special bus operation,” or “casino
12 bus operation” as those terms are defined in R.S.48:4-1 and shall
13 not include a motorbus route predominately operated for tourism or
14 recreational purposes.

15 b. Each private entity that operates motorbus regular route
16 service, as that term is defined in subsection a. of this section, or
17 portions or functions thereof, shall:

18 (1) provide at least four months written notice to the New Jersey
19 Motor Vehicle Commission and the New Jersey Transit Corporation
20 prior to the substantial curtailment, as that term is defined in section
21 8 of P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-8), of such service;

22 (2) provide at least three months written notice to the service’s
23 customers prior to the substantial curtailment of such service; and

24 (3) hold at least one public meeting in the affected area, as close
25 as possible to the highest trafficked stop on the route, within 15
26 days after providing notice to the service’s customers pursuant to
27 paragraph (2) of this subsection. Prior to holding the public
28 meeting, the private entity shall provide written notice of the public
29 meeting to the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, the New
30 Jersey Transit Corporation, as well as the State legislators
31 representing any legislative district, the mayor and governing body
32 of any municipality, and the board of county commissioners of any
33 county that will be affected by the substantial curtailment of such
34 service.

35 c. A private entity that is determined to be in violation of
36 subsection b. of this section shall be subject to a civil penalty not to
37 exceed \$10,000 for each violation, in addition to any penalties that
38 may be available pursuant to law.

39 d. The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission shall adopt
40 rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this section and
41 shall take any action necessary to ensure that private entities are in
42 compliance with the provisions of subsection b. of this section.

43 e. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to
44 prohibit the New Jersey Transit Corporation or any other
45 instrumentality of the State that provides funds or compensation to
46 a private entity from conditioning participation in any program,
47 receipt of funds, or entry into a contractual agreement on adherence

1 to the notice and public meeting requirements provided in this
2 section.

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4 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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9 This bill establishes several requirements for a private entity that
10 operates motorbus regulator route service. Specifically, these
11 private entities would be required to: (1) provide at least four
12 months written notice to the New Jersey Motor Vehicle
13 Commission (commission) and the New Jersey Transit Corporation
14 (NJ Transit) prior to the substantial curtailment of such service; (2)
15 provide at least three months written notice to the service's
16 customers prior to the substantial curtailment of such service; and
17 (3) hold at least one public meeting in the affected area, as close as
18 possible to the highest trafficked stop on the route, within 15 days
19 after providing notice to the service's customers. Prior to holding
20 the public meeting, the private entity is required to provide written
21 notice of the public meeting to the commission, NJ Transit, as well
22 as the State legislators representing any legislative district, the
23 mayor and governing body of any municipality, and the board of
24 county commissioners of any county that will be affected by the
25 substantial curtailment of such service.

26 A private entity found to be in violation of the bill is subject to a
27 civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 for each violation, which
28 penalty is to be in addition to any other penalties that may be
29 available pursuant to law.

30 The bill requires the commission to adopt rules and regulations
31 to implement the bill and to take any action necessary to ensure that
32 private entities are in compliance with the bill's provisions.