

SENATE, No. 2141

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

222nd LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2026 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator PAUL D. MORIARTY

District 4 (Atlantic, Camden and Gloucester)

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

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Co-Sponsored by:

**Senators Stack, Diegnan, McKnight, Turner, Greenstein, Cryan and
Wimberly**

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits cryptocurrency automatic teller machines.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Commerce Committee with technical review.



1 AN ACT concerning digital currency and supplementing P.L.1960,
2 c.39 (C.56:8-1 et seq.).
3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*
6

7 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

8 a. There has been a significant rise in scams associated with
9 the use of Bitcoin automatic teller machines. According to the
10 United States Federal Trade Commission's Consumer Sentinel
11 Network, fraud losses linked to these cryptocurrency automatic
12 teller machines have surged nearly tenfold since 2020 to more than
13 \$110 million in 2023 and exceeded \$65 million in just the first half
14 of 2024. Since many incidents of fraud go unreported, these figures
15 likely represent only a portion of the overall impact.

16 b. Recently, cryptocurrency has become a major payment
17 method for various scams, expanding beyond fake investment
18 schemes, and the increased availability of Bitcoin automatic teller
19 machines has facilitated this trend.

20 c. Bitcoin automatic teller machines are linked to scams
21 involving the impersonation of government agencies, financial
22 institutions, businesses, or tech support companies.

23 d. The median loss reported by Bitcoin automatic teller
24 machines was \$10,000 in the first half of 2024, and individuals aged
25 60 and older were three times more likely to report such losses.

26 e. Therefore, it is the Legislature's intent to help protect
27 consumers from falling victim to the losses associated with the use
28 of cryptocurrency automatic teller machines.
29

30 2. a. For the purposes of this section:

31 "Business entity" means any natural or legal person, business
32 corporation, professional services corporation, limited liability
33 company, partnership, limited partnership, business trust,
34 association, or any other legal commercial entity organized under
35 the laws of this State or any other state or foreign jurisdiction.

36 "Cryptocurrency" means any digital form of currency that
37 functions as a medium of exchange through a decentralized
38 computer network without reliance on any central authority such as
39 the government or a financial institution.

40 "Cryptocurrency automatic teller machine" means a physical,
41 Internet-connected kiosk that allows a user to buy, sell, send, or
42 receive cryptocurrency by depositing money using a debit card,
43 credit card, or cash.

44 b. It shall be an unlawful practice and a violation of P.L.1960,
45 c.39 (C.56:8-1 et seq.) for any business entity to own, control,
46 install, manage, sell, or offer for sale a cryptocurrency automatic
47 teller machine in this State.

1 c. In accordance with the “Administrative Procedure Act,”
2 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), the Director of the Division
3 of Consumer Affairs may promulgate rules and regulations to
4 effectuate the provisions of this section.

5

6 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the six month
7 next following the date of enactment.