

ASSEMBLY, No. 705

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

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District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

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Assemblywoman McKnight and Assemblyman Houghtaling

SYNOPSIS

Requires NJTA to implement certain roadside maintenance safety policies.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning the New Jersey Turnpike Authority's
2 implementation of certain safety policies and supplementing
3 P.L.1948, c.454 (C.27:23-1 et seq.).
4

5 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:
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8 1. a. The New Jersey Turnpike Authority shall implement
9 safety policies for roadside maintenance performed by employees of
10 the authority, which shall include, but not be limited to:

11 (1) a provision that prohibits employees of the authority from
12 using power tools in inclement weather, including moderate to
13 heavy rain, to perform non-emergency roadside maintenance as
14 determined by the authority;

15 (2) a provision that requires that all available precautions be
16 taken to ensure the immediate safety of employees of the authority
17 performing emergency roadside maintenance in inclement weather,
18 including moderate to heavy rain;

19 (3) a provision that requires that all roadside maintenance
20 operations involving the use of gas-powered landscaping equipment
21 be performed during daylight hours, except in emergency situations
22 as determined by the authority; and

23 (4) a provision that requires that portable roadside light towers
24 be used during the performance of all roadside maintenance
25 performed at times other than during daylight hours.

26 b. As used in this section, "all available precautions" shall
27 include, but shall not be limited to, placing roadside warning signs
28 and safety vehicles at least one-fourth of a mile before an
29 emergency roadside maintenance work zone and using variable
30 message signs to inform motorists that emergency roadside
31 maintenance is being performed ahead.
32

33 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
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36 STATEMENT
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38 This bill requires the New Jersey Turnpike Authority (authority)
39 to implement safety policies for roadside maintenance performed by
40 employees of the authority. The safety policies for roadside
41 maintenance are to include: (1) a provision that prohibits employees
42 of the authority from using power tools in inclement weather to
43 perform non-emergency roadside maintenance; (2) a provision that
44 requires that all available precautions be taken to ensure the
45 immediate safety of employees of the authority performing
46 emergency roadside maintenance in inclement weather, including

A705 SUMTER, MURPHY

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1 placing roadside warning signs and safety vehicles at a certain
2 distance before the work zone and using variable message signs to
3 inform motorists that emergency roadside maintenance is being
4 performed ahead; (3) a provision that requires that all roadside
5 maintenance operations involving the use of gas-powered
6 landscaping equipment be performed during daylight hours, except
7 in emergency situations; and (4) a provision that requires that
8 portable roadside light towers be used during the performance of all
9 roadside maintenance performed at times other than during daylight
10 hours.