

ASSEMBLY, No. 1550

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman ROBERT D. CLIFTON

District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Chiaravalloti

SYNOPSIS

Requires omnibus drivers to inspect bus at end of route for passengers with disabilities.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning omnibus drivers and supplementing Title 39 of
2 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. At the end of a transportation route, the driver assigned to an
8 omnibus shall visually inspect the omnibus to determine that no
9 person with a disability has been left on the omnibus.

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11 2. In the event that, after notice and an opportunity to be heard,
12 an omnibus driver is found to have left a person with a disability on
13 the omnibus at the end of the driver's route, the driver's commercial
14 motor vehicle driving privilege shall be:

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19 3. In the event that a person with a disability, who was left on
20 an omnibus by a driver at the end of the route, is harmed as a result
21 of foreseeable danger and the driver is found, after notice and an
22 opportunity to be heard, to have acted with gross negligence, the
23 omnibus driver's commercial motor vehicle driving privilege shall
24 be permanently revoked.

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26 4. a. In the case of a person holding or required to hold a
27 commercial driver license, the Chief Administrator of the New
28 Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission shall include in the
29 commission's records any information related to a driver leaving a
30 person with a disability on an omnibus in violation of P.L. ,
31 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

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33 b. Any omnibus driver whose commercial motor vehicle
34 driving privilege has been suspended or revoked pursuant to
35 section 2 or section 3 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
36 Legislature as this bill) shall have information about the suspension
37 or revocation included on the driver's driving record information
38 filed with the Commercial Driver License Information System.

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40 5. This act shall take effect on the first day of the fourth month
41 next following the date of enactment.

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STATEMENT

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46 This bill requires an omnibus (bus) driver to visually inspect the
47 bus at the end of his or her transportation route to determine that no
48 person with a disability has been left on the bus.

1 In the event that, after notice and an opportunity to be heard, a
2 bus driver is found to have left a person with a disability on the bus
3 at the end of the route, the driver's commercial motor vehicle
4 driving privilege is to be:

- 5 • suspended for one month, for a first offense;
- 6 • suspended for six months, for a second offense; or
- 7 • permanently revoked, for a third offense.

8 The bus driver's commercial motor vehicle driving privilege is to
9 be permanently revoked if the driver is found to have acted with
10 gross negligence and a person with a disability who was left on a
11 bus at the end of the route was harmed as a result of foreseeable
12 danger.

13 Additionally, the bill requires the New Jersey Motor Vehicle
14 Commission (MVC) to include in its records for persons holding or
15 required to hold a commercial driver license (CDL) any information
16 related to a driver leaving a person with a disability on a bus. If a
17 bus driver's commercial motor vehicle driving privilege is
18 suspended or revoked pursuant to the provisions of the bill,
19 information about the suspension or revocation is to be included on
20 his or her driving record information filed by the MVC with the
21 Commercial Driver License Information System (CDLIS). The
22 federal CDLIS provides states an opportunity to exchange
23 information about CDL drivers, convictions, and disqualifications,
24 including information about license suspensions and revocations.