[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 2441

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 3, 2020

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SYNOPSIS

Requires DHS to employ Transportation Planning Coordinator to oversee provision of transportation services.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Transportation and Independent Authorities Committee on December 9, 2021, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/2/2021)

AN ACT concerning transportation services provided to [1]**[**clients of**]** individuals receiving certain services through[1] the Department of Human Services and supplementing Title 30 of the Revised Statutes.

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

1. a. [1]**[**All transportation services provided to clients of the Department**]** The Commissioner[1] of Human Services shall [1]**[**be monitored and administered by a**]** designate an employee to be the[1] Transportation Planning Coordinator [1]**[**employed by the department**]**[1].

b. The Transportation Planning Coordinator shall be qualified by training and experience, as necessary to perform the duties of the position [1]which training and experience may include relevant experience in the transportation industry or in coordinating, supervising, or overseeing transportation services[1]. The Commissioner of Human Services shall determine the requisite qualifications for the position[1]**[**; however, at a minimum, the Transportation Planning Coordinator shall have at least five years of experience in the transportation industry or in the management of transportation services**]**[1].

c. The duties of the Transportation Planning Coordinator shall include:

(1) [1]**[**managing and overseeing the transportation services that are provided to the department's clients and ensuring the effective and efficient transportation of all such clients to and from their destinations;

(2) managing and**]**[1] overseeing the transportation providers who are contracted by [1]or have otherwise entered into an agreement with[1] the department [1]**[**or who are otherwise authorized to provide services to the department's clients, and ensuring that such providers are in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and practice and vehicle standards**]**[1];

[1]**[**(3)**]** (2)[1] monitoring and reporting [1], as appropriate,[1] driver or vehicle issues, such as accidents, safety issues, or licensing concerns [1]as such information is made available to the coordinator[1];

[1]**[**(4)**]** (3)[1] soliciting [1]**[**and contracting with**]**[1] new transportation providers to serve [1]**[**the department's clients**]** applicable individuals receiving transportation services, as appropriate[1];

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.
Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:
[1]Assembly ATR committee amendments adopted December 9, 2021.

[1]**[**(5) managing the dispatch of vehicles and the assignment of drivers or transportation providers to particular routes or areas of the State;

(6)**]** (4)[1] ensuring that transportation providers [1]**[**adhere to pick-up and delivery schedules and**]**[1] provide timely services [1]**[**to department clientele**]** as provided in any applicable contract or agreement with the department[1];

[1]**[**(7)**]** (5)[1] maintaining records of all transportation services provided to [1]**[**department clientele**]** individuals under the department's purview[1];

[1]**[**(8) providing department clientele with advance notice of, and an explanation describing, any proposed changes to the department's transportation system;

(9)**]** (6)[1] receiving, reviewing, investigating, and resolving complaints filed with respect to [1]**[**the**]** applicable[1] transportation services [1]**[**that are provided to department clientele**]**[1];

[1]**[**(10)**]** (7)[1] conducting internal reviews and investigations to identify inefficiencies or other problems occurring within the department's transportation system, and instituting revised procedures to address identified concerns or issues;

[1]**[**(11)**]** (8)[1] analyzing the costs of transportation services offered through the department, and recommending more cost effective methods of transportation, where appropriate; and

[1]**[**(12)**]** (9)[1] any other appropriate duties assigned by the department.

d. On at least an annual basis, the Transportation Planning Coordinator shall submit a written report to the commissioner describing the coordinator's [1]relevant[1] activities over the prior year[1]**[**. Each annual report shall include:

(1) a description of any changes to the transportation system that have been implemented during the reporting period, and a description of any other changes that are recommended or are being considered, but which are not yet implemented;

(2) **]** and shall provide[1] a summary of transportation-related complaints received during the reporting period, and an indication of the extent to which and manner in which such complaints were resolved[1]**[**;

(3) an accounting of any other concerns or problems identified by the coordinator; and

(4) any other information required by the commissioner**]**[1].

e. As used in this section:

"Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Human Services.

"Department" means the Department of Human Services.

[1]**[**"Clients" or "clientele" means those persons who are eligible to receive transportation services provided by the department.**]**[1]

2. The Commissioner of Human Services [1]⟦shall⟧ may[1] adopt rules and regulations, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the [1]⟦sixth⟧ tenth[1] month next following the date of enactment, except that the Commissioner of Human Services may take anticipatory administrative action in advance of the effective date, as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this act.