

ASSEMBLY, No. 3678

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 16, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman ANTHONY S. VERRELLI

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman CLINTON CALABRESE

District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Clarifies that residents with mental illness or substance use disorders may be included on public safety special assistance municipal lists.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/3/2022)

1 AN ACT concerning municipal lists of residents in need of special
2 assistance and amending P.L.2017, c.266.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. Section 1 of P.L.2017, c.266 (C.40:48-2.67) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 1. The governing body of a municipality, by ordinance, may
10 require the clerk of the municipality to maintain a list containing the
11 names and addresses of municipal residents who identify
12 themselves as being in need of special assistance in the event of an
13 emergency, and who request that this information be maintained on
14 their behalf, for public safety purposes, including but not limited to,
15 use by law enforcement officers responding to an emergency call.
16 Residents with a mental illness or substance use disorder may
17 request that they be included on the list.

18 The list shall be cross-indexed by name and address of each
19 resident requesting to be on the list, and shall identify the special
20 circumstances of each **【individual】** resident. The clerk shall
21 provide the list solely and strictly for the purposes of
22 P.L.2017, c.266 (C.40:48-2.67 et al.) to the municipal police
23 department, to each fire department or fire district serving the
24 municipality, and to each first aid or rescue squad serving the
25 municipality, and shall ensure that they are provided with updates at
26 least monthly.

27 A notice to municipal residents advising them that **【such a】** this
28 list is being maintained by the clerk for public safety purposes shall
29 be included annually with the tax bills mailed to local property
30 taxpayers. The notice shall include information as to how a
31 municipal resident may add his or her name and address to the
32 municipal list.

33 The municipal clerk shall notify each landlord who has filed a
34 certificate of registration with the municipality pursuant to section 2
35 of P.L.1974, c.50 (C.46:8-28) of the existence of the list, and shall
36 provide the landlord with a copy of a notice to be provided to the
37 landlord's tenants, including information as to how a tenant may be
38 added to the list.

39 (cf: P.L.2017, c.266, s.1)

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

43
44 STATEMENT

45
46 This bill clarifies that residents with a mental illness or substance
47 use disorder may include themselves on municipal lists of persons
48 in need of special assistance in an emergency.

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.

1 Under current law, a municipality may enact an ordinance
2 requiring the municipal clerk to maintain a list of names and
3 addresses of municipal residents who identify themselves as being
4 in need of special assistance in the event of an emergency. This
5 information is to be maintained on their behalf for public safety
6 purposes. The list is cross-indexed by name and address of the
7 resident and identifies the resident's special circumstances. The
8 clerk is required to provide the initial list and monthly updates to
9 the list to the municipal police department, fire departments or
10 districts, and first aid or rescue squads.

11 This bill clarifies that residents with a mental illness or substance
12 use disorder may request that their name, address, and
13 circumstances be included on the municipal special needs list.
14 Under the bill, a police officer would be authorized to consult the
15 list prior to responding to an emergency call.