

ASSEMBLY, No. 4131

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 7, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman ROBERT J. KARABINCHAK

District 18 (Middlesex)

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District 31 (Hudson)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywomen Jimenez and Tucker

SYNOPSIS

Requires DOH to establish sanitization guidelines for hotels operating in State.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/11/2020)

1 **AN ACT** concerning hotel sanitization and supplementing
2 N.J.S.A.55:13A-1 et seq.

3

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

6

7 1. As used in this act:

8 “Front desk” means the physical location in a hotel where a guest
9 may check-into or reserve a room.

10 “Guest room” means a private room made available by a hotel
11 for occupancy by a guest. A guest room may be comprised of
12 several interconnected rooms, such as a bathroom, living room, or
13 multiple bedrooms, in the case of a suite.

14 “Guest touch-point” means any surface in a public space in hotel
15 that is regularly touched by a hotel or motel guest. A guest touch-
16 point includes, but is not limited to, doorknobs, door handles,
17 counters, desks, tables, chairs, sofas, and electronics.

18 “Occupied guest room” means that a guest is currently checked
19 in to a guest room regardless of whether the guest is physically
20 present in the room.

21 “Public space” means any space accessible to a guest within a
22 hotel including, but are not limited to, the lobby, including a lobby
23 bathroom, a dining area, a hallway, an elevator, and a bathroom. A
24 public space does not include a guest room.

25

26 2. a. The Commissioner of Health shall issue protocols for the
27 sanitization of each hotel in the State. These protocols shall
28 include, but not be limited to, directives requiring hotel staff to:

29 (1) maintain continuous 24 hour, seven day a week coverage of a
30 front desk by at least one employee per every 100 guest rooms, and
31 by at least one additional employee per every 200 guest rooms;

32 (2) train a front desk employee to respond to a guests’ inquiry
33 related to health and safety, including but not limited to, the
34 location of hospitals in the vicinity of the hotel, emergency
35 telephone numbers, and options for seeking treatment or testing for
36 virus diseases during a public health crisis;

37 (3) ensure that every guest room is cleaned and sanitized and
38 provided with an adequate supply of clean towels, sheets, and
39 pillowcases prior to occupancy by a new guest;

40 (4) ensure that every occupied guest room is cleaned and
41 sanitized every day, and that the room is provided with an adequate
42 supply of clean towels, sheets, and pillowcases and that the towels,
43 sheets, and pillowcases that are changed no less frequently than
44 once every day;

45 (5) ensure that all public spaces are cleaned and sanitized at least
46 once every day, and that all guest touch-points are cleaned and
47 sanitized regularly throughout each day;

1 (6) provide their employees with anti-microbial cleaning
2 products certified by the United States Environmental Protection
3 Agency that are approved for use against the coronavirus disease
4 2019 (COVID-19), other coronaviruses, influenza viruses, or other
5 viral diseases. These products shall be used when cleaning and
6 sanitizing each guest room, guest touch-point, and public space; and
7 (7) train its employees on the proper use of anti-microbial
8 cleaning products and on proper cleaning protocols that maximize
9 the sanitary condition of each guest room, guest touch-point, and
10 public space.

11 b. The Bureau of Housing Inspection in the Department of
12 Community Affairs shall distribute the guidelines developed by the
13 Department of Health pursuant to subsection a. of this section, and
14 shall inspect each hotel in the State for the purpose of determining
15 the extent to which each hotel complies with the provisions of this
16 act and the regulations promulgated hereunder.

17
18 2. The Commissioner of Health, in consultation with the
19 Department of Community Affairs, pursuant to the "Administrative
20 Procedures Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) shall adopt
21 rules and regulations necessary to effectuate the purposes of this
22 act.

23
24 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the third month
25 next following enactment, except that the commissioner may take
26 any anticipatory administrative action in advance as shall be
27 necessary for the implementation of this act.

28 29 30 STATEMENT

31
32 This bill requires the Commissioner of Health to issue protocols
33 for the sanitization of each hotel in the State.

34 As defined in the bill: "front desk" means the physical location
35 in a hotel where a guest may check-into or reserve a room; "guest
36 room" means a private room made available by a hotel for
37 occupancy by a guest, including those comprised of several
38 interconnected rooms, such as a bathroom, living room, or multiple
39 bedrooms, in the case of a suite; "guest touch-point" means any
40 surface in a public space in hotel that is regularly touched by a hotel
41 or motel guest, including, but is not limited to, doorknobs, door
42 handles, counters, desks, tables, chairs, sofas, and electronics;
43 "occupied guest room" means that a guest is currently checked in to
44 a guest room regardless of whether the guest is physically present in
45 the room; and "public space" means any space, excluding a guest
46 room, accessible to a guest within a hotel including, but are not
47 limited to, the lobby, including a lobby bathroom, a dining area, a
48 hallway, an elevator, and a bathroom.

1 Specifically, the protocols would include, but not be limited to,
2 directives requiring hotel staff to: maintain continuous 24 hour,
3 seven day a week coverage of a front desk by at least one employee
4 per every 100 guest rooms, and by at least one additional employee
5 per every 200 guest rooms; train a front desk employee to respond
6 to a guests' inquiry related to health and safety, including but not
7 limited to, the location of hospitals in the vicinity of the hotel,
8 emergency telephone numbers, and options for seeking treatment or
9 testing for virus diseases during a public health crisis; ensure that
10 every guest room is cleaned and sanitized and provided with an
11 adequate supply of clean towels, sheets, and pillowcases prior to
12 occupancy by a new guest; ensure that every occupied guest room is
13 cleaned and sanitized every day, and that the room is provided with
14 an adequate supply of clean towels, sheets, and pillowcases and that
15 the towels, sheets, and pillowcases that are changed no less
16 frequently than once every day; ensure that all public spaces are
17 cleaned and sanitized at least once every day, and that all guest
18 touch-points are cleaned and sanitized regularly throughout each
19 day; provide their employees with anti-microbial cleaning products
20 certified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency that
21 are approved for use against COVID-19, other coronaviruses,
22 influenza viruses, or other viral diseases and will be used when
23 cleaning and sanitizing each guest room, guest touch-point, and
24 public space; and train its employees on the proper use of anti-
25 microbial cleaning products and on proper cleaning protocols that
26 maximize the sanitary condition of each guest room, guest touch-
27 point, and public space.

28 The Bureau of Housing Inspection in the Department of
29 Community Affairs would distribute the guidelines developed by
30 the Department of Health and inspect each hotel in the State for the
31 purpose of determining the extent to which each hotel complies
32 with the provisions of bill.