

ASSEMBLY, No. 5341

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 27, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman YVONNE LOPEZ

District 19 (Middlesex)

Assemblyman ERIC HOUGHTALING

District 11 (Monmouth)

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywomen McKnight and Vainieri Huttle

SYNOPSIS

Updates 2-1-1 telephone system information to include all current modes of public transit and information on access and usage.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/23/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning the publication and availability of certain
2 transportation information and supplementing Title 26 of the
3 Revised Statutes.

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

7
8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

9 a. The New Jersey Statewide 2-1-1 telephone system is the
10 national abbreviated dialing code for free access to health and
11 human services information and referral;

12 b. New Jersey's current Statewide 2-1-1 telephone system is out
13 of date with regards to information relating to current available
14 modes of public transit, that mainly directs people with disabilities
15 to use private transit services that are expensive and not feasible for
16 routine travel;

17 c. New Jersey's Statewide 2-1-1 system should include all
18 pertinent transportation information, especially information
19 pertaining to Access Link, county paratransit, voluntary drivers, or
20 agencies that cater to the transportation needs of persons with
21 disabilities; and

22 d. The Statewide 2-1-1 telephone system needs to be updated to
23 include all current modes of public transit available in New Jersey,
24 as well as updated to provide information on how to access and use
25 the various services.

26
27 2. The New Jersey Transit Corporation and the Department of
28 Human Services shall partner with the Statewide 2-1-1 telephone
29 system and shall be responsible for providing the appropriate
30 information to the system so that all relevant public transit
31 providers and information are included and available. The
32 Statewide 2-1-1 telephone system, in conjunction with the
33 corporation and the department, shall review, revise, and maintain
34 information concerning the current modes of available public
35 transit, information on accessing various modes of public transit,
36 and information on how to use the services. Information shall be
37 collected on all transportation services, including fixed route
38 transportation services, and transportation network company and
39 taxi services, with particular attention to be paid to information
40 concerning available paratransit services and private and volunteer
41 services.

42
43 3. The information collected and maintained by the New Jersey
44 Transit Corporation, the Department of Human Services, and the
45 Statewide 2-1-1 telephone system shall include: a listing of all
46 current modes of public transit available in New Jersey; a detailed
47 description of any and all prequalification or eligibility
48 requirements necessary before use of the public transit mode may

1 commence; information on how each New Jersey citizen may
2 access all current and available modes of public transit; and
3 information on how to use the services along with each public
4 transit providers contact information.

5

6 4. The information described in section 3 of
7 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)
8 shall be:

9 a. prominently displayed on the websites of both the New
10 Jersey Transit Corporation and the Department of Human Services;

11 b. made available to the public through the Statewide 2-1-1
12 telephone system; and

13 c. made available using any other means that the Executive
14 Director of the corporation or the Commissioner of Human
15 Services deems appropriate.

16 In addition, to the extent practicable, the Statewide 2-1-1
17 telephone system, the corporation, and the department shall
18 disseminate information concerning public transit availability and
19 resources using social media and any other means deemed
20 appropriate to reach as many individuals and population groups in
21 the State as possible.

22

23 5. This act shall take effect on the first day of the third month
24 after enactment.

25

26

27

STATEMENT

28

29 This bill outlines concerns surrounding the available information
30 provided by the Statewide 2-1-1 telephone system regarding current
31 modes of public transportation available in the State. The bill is
32 aimed at updating the information to include all current modes of
33 available public transit, information on accessing various modes of
34 public transit, and information on how to use the services.

35 In partnership with both the New Jersey Transit Corporation
36 (NJT) and the Department of Human Services (DHS), the Statewide
37 2-1-1 telephone system program must review, revise, and maintain
38 information concerning the current modes of available public
39 transit, information on accessing various modes of public transit,
40 and information on how to use the services. NJT and DHS are
41 responsible for providing appropriate and up-to-date information to
42 the Statewide 2-1-1 telephone system so that all relevant public
43 transit providers are included.

44 The information collected and maintained by NJT, DHS, and the
45 Statewide 2-1-1 telephone system must include a listing of all
46 current modes of public transit available in New Jersey, a

A5341 LOPEZ, HOUGHTALING

4

1 description of any and all required prequalification or eligibility
2 determinations required before use of public transit, information on
3 accessing various modes of public transit, and information on how
4 to use the services and each public transit providers contact
5 information. The information is then to be displayed on the
6 websites of both NJT and DHS, as well as made available to the
7 public through the Statewide 2-1-1 telephone system.