

ASSEMBLY, No. 5506

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 17, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT

District 31 (Hudson)

Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI

District 33 (Hudson)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Assemblyman Verrelli, Assemblywomen Vainieri Huttle, Speight,
Assemblymen Calabrese, Wimberly, Houghtaling and Assemblywoman
Downey**

SYNOPSIS

Requires chief law enforcement officer of municipal police departments to hold two community roundtables on police relations each year.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/6/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning certain police community roundtables and
2 supplementing chapter 14 of Title 40A of the New Jersey
3 statutes.

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

7
8 1. a. The chief law enforcement officer of the municipality or, if
9 the municipality does not have a chief law enforcement officer, the
10 Superintendent of State Police, shall sponsor an open community
11 roundtable discussion on police relations at least twice per calendar
12 year. One community roundtable shall be held in the spring and
13 one community roundtable shall be held in the fall.

14 b. To maximize community participation, the sponsor of the
15 community roundtable shall provide ample notice to the
16 community, hold the roundtable at a central location in the
17 municipality, and schedule the roundtable in the evening.

18 c. Topics to be addressed at the community roundtable shall
19 include, but not be limited to:

- 20 (1) race relations and racial profiling;
21 (2) recruitment, selection, and retention of officers;
22 (3) training and education of recruits and supervisors;
23 (4) regulation of body worn cameras; and
24 (5) use of force, police misconduct, and internal affairs
25 investigations.

26
27 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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30 STATEMENT

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32 This bill requires the chief law enforcement officer of every
33 municipal police department in this State to sponsor at least two
34 community roundtables on police relations each year.

35 The bill specifically requires the chief law enforcement officer of
36 the municipality or, if the municipality does not have a chief law
37 enforcement officer, the Superintendent of State Police to sponsor
38 an open community roundtable on police relations in the spring and
39 fall of each calendar year. The bill requires these community
40 roundtables to held in the evening at a central location in the
41 municipality with ample notice in order to maximize public
42 participation.

43 Topics to be addressed at the community roundtables include
44 race relations and racial profiling; recruitment, selection, and
45 retention of officers; training and education of recruits and
46 supervisors; regulation of body worn cameras; and use of force,
47 police misconduct, and internal affairs investigations.

A5506 MCKNIGHT, MUKHERJI

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1 According to the sponsor, the grassroots, diverse discussions that
2 are the basis of community roundtables are essential in addressing
3 the complex and divisive issues involving citizens and police
4 officers. Community roundtables are an ideal forum for addressing
5 these critical public issues in a democratic and collaborative way.