

ASSEMBLY, No. 5514

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 17, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANNETTE CHAPARRO

District 33 (Hudson)

Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI

District 33 (Hudson)

Assemblywoman ANGELICA M. JIMENEZ

District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Mejia

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits tourist helicopter operations in New Jersey.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/8/2021)

1 **AN ACT** concerning certain helicopter operations in New Jersey and
2 supplementing Title 6 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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7 1. As used in P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
8 Legislature as this bill):

9 "Airport" means a designated area of land, water, or both, which
10 is licensed by the Department of Transportation for the landing and
11 takeoff of airplanes and other aircraft, and which may provide
12 facilities for shelter, security, and service of aircraft.

13 "Emergency medical transportation" shall have the same
14 meaning as provided in section 1 of P.L.1986, c.106 (C.26:2K-35).

15 "Helicopter" means a rotary wing aircraft that depends
16 principally upon the lift generated by engine-driven rotors rotating
17 on a substantially vertical axis for its primary means of propulsion.

18 "Heliport" means a dedicated area of defined dimensions, either
19 at ground level or elevated on a structure, designated for the landing
20 or takeoff of helicopters and used solely for that purpose.

21 "Helistop" means an area of defined dimensions, either at ground
22 level or elevated on a structure designated for the landing or take
23 off of helicopters, but not limited in use to that sole purpose.

24 "Tourist helicopter" means a helicopter that operates for the
25 purpose of providing sightseeing tours to patrons in areas including,
26 but not limited to, the Hudson River between New Jersey and New
27 York City, the Statue of Liberty, and Ellis Island.

28

29 2. In order to eliminate the noise, safety hazards, and other
30 negative impacts on the quality of life of New Jersey residents
31 caused by tourist helicopters, the Commissioner of Transportation
32 shall prohibit all tourist helicopter operations at all aviation
33 facilities licensed by the State including, but not limited to, airports,
34 heliports, and helistops. Flights by helicopters owned or operated
35 by a federal or military authority or the State government and
36 helicopters providing emergency medical transportation shall not be
37 included in the prohibition.

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39 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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44 This bill requires the Commissioner of Transportation to prohibit
45 tourist helicopter operations at aviation facilities licensed by the
46 State. Tourist helicopter is defined to mean a helicopter that
47 operates for the purpose of providing sightseeing tours to patrons in

1 areas including, but not limited to, the Hudson River between New
2 Jersey and New York City, the Statue of Liberty, and Ellis Island.
3 Flights by helicopters owned or operated by a federal or military
4 authority or the State government and helicopters providing
5 emergency medical transportation are not included in the
6 prohibition.