

**SENATE, No. 441**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**219th LEGISLATURE**

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PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator STEVEN V. OROHO**

**District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)**

**Senator PAUL A. SARLO**

**District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Testa, A.M.Bucco and Turner**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes Government Efficiency and Regulatory Review Commission.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/14/2021)**

1   **AN ACT** establishing a Government Efficiency and Regulatory  
2       Review Commission and supplementing Title 52 of the Revised  
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. The Legislature finds and declares that:

9       a. It is imperative that proposed or adopted State rules and  
10      regulations, as well as operative Executive Orders, be thoroughly  
11      reviewed in a careful, balanced, and expeditious way to: assess their  
12      potential or actual effects on the State's economy; determine  
13      whether their costs and other burdens on businesses, workers, and  
14      local governments outweigh their intended benefits; and establish a  
15      basis for providing recommendations to the Governor to amend any  
16      rules and regulations or Executive Orders that unduly burden the  
17      State's businesses, workers, and local governments.

18      b. A bipartisan commission consisting of representatives from  
19      the Executive and Legislative branches of State government, who  
20      are devoted to the common goal of promptly addressing the State's  
21      economic viability and prosperity, should conduct this review.

22      c. The bipartisan commission should conduct its review with  
23      transparency, providing an opportunity for businesses, workers,  
24      local governments, and members of the public to obtain information  
25      about the commission's work and to communicate pertinent  
26      information and opinions to the commission in an appropriate and  
27      effective manner.

28

29      2. a. There is created, in the Office of the Governor, a  
30      Government Efficiency and Regulatory Review Commission.

31      b. The commission shall consist of nine members as follows:

32       (1) The Chief Innovation Officer, or a designee, who shall serve  
33      as chair of the commission;

34       (2) The Executive Director of the New Jersey Business Action  
35      Center, or a designee;

36       (3) The Chief Counsel to the Governor, or a designee;

37       (4) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection, or a  
38      designee;

39       (5) The Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development,  
40      or a designee;

41       (6) The President of the Senate, or a designee;

42       (7) The Speaker of the General Assembly, or a designee;

43       (8) The Senate Minority Leader, or a designee; and

44       (9) The General Assembly Minority Leader, or a designee.

45      c. The Chief Innovation Officer, at his or her discretion, may  
46      appoint additional members to provide the commission with  
47      necessary and appropriate expertise and representation on behalf of  
48      businesses, workers, and local governments. Members appointed

- 1 by the Chief Innovation Officer shall serve at the pleasure of the  
2 Chief Innovation Officer.
- 3 d. Members of the commission shall serve without  
4 compensation.
- 5 e. The commission shall meet once every six months and at  
6 such other times as the chair of the commission may determine.
- 7 f. The commission shall hold at least two public hearings in  
8 different regions of the State annually, at such times and places as  
9 the chair shall determine. The commission shall invite to testify  
10 business leaders, workers' groups, local government officials,  
11 taxpayers, and other interested parties to discuss issues surrounding  
12 applicable rules, regulations, and executive orders.  
13
- 14 3. a. The commission shall:
- 15 (1) review all proposed and adopted rules and regulations and  
16 operative Executive Orders issued by the Governor to: assess their  
17 potential or actual effects on the State's economy; determine  
18 whether their costs and other burdens on businesses, workers, and  
19 local governments outweigh their intended benefits; and establish a  
20 basis for providing recommendations to the Governor to amend any  
21 rules and regulations or Executive Orders that unduly burden the  
22 State's businesses, workers, and local governments;
- 23 (2) call upon any department, office, division, or agency of this  
24 State to supply the commission with data and other information,  
25 personnel, or assistance it deems necessary to discharge its duties;
- 26 (3) solicit both written and oral comments from the public,  
27 including professional, labor, community, and environmental  
28 organizations, businesses, workers, and other affected persons or  
29 entities as the commission deems appropriate, and to consider the  
30 views expressed by those parties in any report; and
- 31 (4) provide annually a written report to the Governor and the  
32 Legislature, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-  
33 19.1), in which the commission shall provide recommendations to  
34 repeal, rescind, or amend any rules and regulations or Executive  
35 Orders that unduly burden the State's businesses, workers, and local  
36 governments.
- 37 b. Each department, office, division, or agency of the State  
38 shall cooperate with the commission and furnish it with such  
39 information, personnel, and assistance necessary for the  
40 commission to accomplish its duties.
- 41 c. Reports provided by the commission pursuant to this section,  
42 including any recommendations to repeal, rescind, or amend any  
43 rules and regulations or Executive Orders contained therein, shall  
44 not confer any legal rights upon any persons or entities affected by  
45 those rules and regulations or Executive Orders. The commission's  
46 reports shall be advisory and shall not be used as a basis for any  
47 legal challenges based upon the action or inaction of any  
48 department, office, division, or agency of the State.

1       4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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6       This bill creates the Government Efficiency and Regulatory  
7 Review Commission to assess the effect that rules and regulations  
8 and Executive Orders have on the State's economy and to provide  
9 recommendations to the Governor to amend any rules and  
10 regulations or Executive Orders that unduly burden the State's  
11 businesses, workers, and local governments.

12       Under the bill, the commission would be comprised of nine  
13 members, consisting of representatives from the Executive and  
14 Legislative branches of State government, who are devoted to the  
15 common goal of promptly addressing the State's economic viability  
16 and prosperity. The bill requires each department, office, division,  
17 or agency of the State to cooperate with the commission and furnish  
18 it with any information, personnel, and assistance it needs to  
19 accomplish its duties. The commission's findings would be  
20 advisory and cannot be used as a basis for any legal challenges  
21 based upon the action or inaction of any department, office,  
22 division, or agency of the State.

23       The bill requires the commission to:

24       (1) review all proposed and adopted rules and regulations and  
25 operative Executive Orders issued by the Governor to: assess their  
26 potential or actual effects on the State's economy; determine  
27 whether their costs and other burdens on businesses, workers, and  
28 local governments outweigh their intended benefits; and establish a  
29 basis for providing recommendations to the Governor to amend any  
30 rules and regulations or Executive Orders that unduly burden the  
31 State's businesses, workers, and local governments;

32       (2) call upon any department, office, division, or agency of this  
33 State to supply the commission with data and other information,  
34 personnel, or assistance it deems necessary to discharge its duties;

35       (3) solicit both written and oral comments from the public,  
36 including professional, labor, community, and environmental  
37 organizations, businesses, workers, and other affected persons or  
38 entities as the commission deems appropriate, and to consider the  
39 views expressed by those parties in any report; and

40       (4) provide annually a written report to the Governor and the  
41 Legislature in which the commission must provide  
42 recommendations to repeal, rescind, or amend any rules and  
43 regulations or Executive Orders that unduly burden the State's  
44 businesses, workers, and local governments.