

SENATE, No. 441

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator STEVEN V. OROHO

District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

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District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

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

SYNOPSIS

Establishes Government Efficiency and Regulatory Review Commission.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation Committee with technical review.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/16/2021)

1 **AN ACT** establishing a Government Efficiency and Regulatory
2 Review Commission and supplementing Title 52 of the Revised
3 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. 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
49 by the Chief Innovation Officer shall serve at the pleasure of the
50 Chief Innovation Officer.

1 d. Members of the commission shall serve without
2 compensation.

3 e. The commission shall meet once every six months and at
4 such other times as the chair of the commission may determine.

5 f. The commission shall hold at least two public hearings in
6 different regions of the State annually, at such times and places as
7 the chair shall determine. The commission shall invite to testify
8 business leaders, workers' groups, local government officials,
9 taxpayers, and other interested parties to discuss issues surrounding
10 applicable rules, regulations, and executive orders.

11

12 3. a. The commission shall:

13 (1) review all proposed and adopted rules and regulations and
14 operative Executive Orders issued by the Governor to: assess their
15 potential or actual effects on the State's economy; determine
16 whether their costs and other burdens on businesses, workers, and
17 local governments outweigh their intended benefits; and establish a
18 basis for providing recommendations to the Governor to amend any
19 rules and regulations or Executive Orders that unduly burden the
20 State's businesses, workers, and local governments;

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

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

29 (4) provide annually a written report to the Governor and the
30 Legislature, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-
31 19.1), in which the commission shall provide recommendations to
32 repeal, rescind, or amend any rules and regulations or Executive
33 Orders that unduly burden the State's businesses, workers, and local
34 governments.

35 b. Each department, office, division, or agency of the State
36 shall cooperate with the commission and furnish it with such
37 information, personnel, and assistance necessary for the
38 commission to accomplish its duties.

39 c. Reports provided by the commission pursuant to this section,
40 including any recommendations to repeal, rescind, or amend any
41 rules and regulations or Executive Orders contained therein, shall
42 not confer any legal rights upon any persons or entities affected by
43 those rules and regulations or Executive Orders. The commission's
44 reports shall be advisory and shall not be used as a basis for any
45 legal challenges based upon the action or inaction of any
46 department, office, division, or agency of the State.

47

48 4. This act shall take effect immediately.