

**SENATE, No. 761**

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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 VIN GOPAL**

**District 11 (Monmouth)**

**SYNOPSIS**

"Penny's Law"; requires DEP to develop beach accessibility guidelines for persons with disabilities.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



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

b. When developing the guidelines pursuant to subsection a. of this section, the Department of Environmental Protection shall:

(2) consider, as appropriate, the guidelines for beach access routes and facilities on federal lands, which have been adopted by the United States Access Board.

d. The Department of Environmental Protection shall design a uniform promotional label or sign that may be displayed by a State or local government at any beach that complies with the guidelines adopted pursuant to subsection a. of this section.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

This bill, designated as "Penny's Law," would require the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), in consultation with the Department of Human Services, to develop guidelines for specific facilities and accommodations necessary to provide accessibility to beaches for persons with disabilities. The guidelines would be required to include recommendations for ramps, restrooms, showers, boardwalks, surf chairs, parking, and

1 any other facilities deemed appropriate. The bill requires the DEP,  
2 when developing the guidelines, to consult with any persons or  
3 organizations with knowledge and experience in assisting  
4 individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities. The bill  
5 requires the Department of Human Services to establish a process  
6 by which such persons and organizations will be informed of their  
7 ability to provide input and recommendations in association with  
8 the development of beach accessibility guidelines. The DEP is also  
9 required to consider, as appropriate, the guidelines for beach access  
10 routes and facilities on federal lands adopted by the United States  
11 Access Board. The bill requires the DEP to publish the guidelines  
12 on its Internet website and to distribute the guidelines to every  
13 county and municipality with publicly-owned beach or waterfront  
14 property.

15 This bill also requires the DEP to design a uniform label or sign  
16 that may be displayed by a State or local government at any beach  
17 that complies with the accessibility guidelines developed under the  
18 bill.