SENATE, No. 1172

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 3, 2020

Sponsored by:
Senator NILSA CRUZ-PEREZ
District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

SYNOPSIS

Provides for training programs for notaries public and increases application fees.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

AN ACT concerning notaries public, amending and supplementing P.L.1979, c. 460.

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

1. Section 2 of P.L.1979, c.460 (C.52:7-11) is amended to read as follows:

2. a. The State Treasurer shall appoint so many notaries public as the State Treasurer shall deem necessary to commission, who shall hold their respective offices for the term of five years, but may be removed from office at the pleasure of the State Treasurer.

b. A person desiring to be appointed and commissioned a notary public shall make application to the State Treasurer on a form prescribed by the State Treasurer and endorsed by a member of the Legislature. Renewals thereof shall be made in the same manner as the original application.

The application form shall provide a notice to the applicant that a notary public who is not licensed as an attorney-at-law shall not use or advertise the title of lawyer or attorney-at-law, or equivalent terms, in the English language or any other language, which mean or imply that the notary public is licensed as an attorney-at-law in the State of New Jersey or in any other jurisdiction of the United States. The application form shall also state that a notary public who advertises his services in the English language or any other language is required to provide with such advertisement a notice which contains the following statement: "I am not an attorney licensed to practice law and may not give legal advice about immigration or any other legal matter or accept fees for legal advice."

c. The fee to be collected by the State Treasurer for that appointment or renewal shall be **[**$25.00**]** $50.

(cf: P.L.2014, c.48, s.3)

2. (New section) a. The State Treasurer shall develop and approve a four-hour training course for the initial commission for a notary public pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1979, c. 460 (C.52:7-11).

b. The training course shall be completed within three-month period immediately preceding the application for a commission for a notary public pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1979, c. 460 (C.52:7-11).

c. This training course and curriculum shall be reviewed at least every two years and modified by the State Treasurer from time to time as need may require.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

3. This act shall take effect on the 30th day after enactment.

STATEMENT

This bill would require the State Treasurer to develop and approve a four-hour training course for the initial commission for notaries public. The training course would be required to be completed within three-month period immediately preceding the application for a commission for a notary public. The bill requires that the training course and curriculum be reviewed at least every two years and modified by the State Treasurer from time to time as need may require.

In addition, this bill would increase the application fee for notaries public from $25 to $50.