

**SENATE, No. 1211**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**219th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 3, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO**

**District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires person applying to register automobile or motorcycle in NJ to provide person's telephone number.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



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1 AN ACT concerning automobile and motorcycle registrations and  
2 amending R.S.39:3-4.

3

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

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7 1. R.S.39:3-4 is amended to read as follows:

8 39:3-4. Except as hereinafter provided, every resident of this  
9 State and every nonresident whose automobile or motorcycle shall  
10 be driven in this State shall, before using the vehicle on the public  
11 highways, register the same, and an automobile or motorcycle shall  
12 not be driven unless so registered.

13 Registration shall be made in the following manner: An  
14 application in writing, signed by the applicant or by an agent or  
15 officer, in case the applicant is a corporation, shall be made to the  
16 chief administrator or the chief administrator's agent, on forms  
17 prepared and supplied by the chief administrator, containing the  
18 name, street address of the residence or the business of the owner,  
19 mailing address, if different from the street address of the owner's  
20 residence or business, personal or business telephone number of the  
21 owner, and age of the owner, together with a description of the  
22 character of the automobile or motorcycle, including the name of  
23 the maker and the vehicle identification number, or the  
24 manufacturer's number, or the number assigned by the chief  
25 administrator, if the vehicle does not have a vehicle identification  
26 number, and any other statement that may be required by the chief  
27 administrator. A post office box shall appear on the application  
28 only as part of a mailing address that is submitted by the owner,  
29 agent or officer, as the case may be, in addition to the street address  
30 of the applicant's residence or business; provided, however, the  
31 chief administrator, upon application, shall permit a person who  
32 was a victim of a violation of section 1 of P.L.1992, c.209  
33 (C.2C:12-10), N.J.S.2C:14-2, or P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-17 et  
34 seq.), or who the chief administrator otherwise determines to have  
35 good cause, to use as a mailing address a post office box, an address  
36 other than the applicant's address, or other contact point. An owner  
37 whose last address appears on the records of the commission as a  
38 post office box shall change the owner's address on the owner's  
39 application for renewal to the street address of the owner's  
40 residence or business and, if different from the owner's street  
41 address, the owner's mailing address unless the chief administrator  
42 has determined, pursuant to this section, that the owner may use a  
43 post office box, an address other than the owner's address, or other  
44 contact point as a mailing address. The chief administrator, upon  
45 receipt of an application, shall exempt a person who was a victim of

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.

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1 a violation of section 1 of P.L.1992, c.209 (C.2C:12-10),  
2 N.J.S.2C:14-2, or P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-17 et seq.), or who the  
3 chief administrator otherwise determines to have good cause, from  
4 providing a telephone number as required by this section. The  
5 application shall contain the name of the insurer of the vehicle and  
6 the policy number. If the vehicle is a leased motor vehicle, the  
7 application shall make note of that fact and shall include along with  
8 the name and street address of the lessor the name, street address,  
9 and driver license number of the lessee.

10 Thereupon the chief administrator shall have the power to grant a  
11 registration certificate to the owner of any motor vehicle, if over 17  
12 years of age, application for the registration having been properly  
13 made and the fee therefor paid, and the vehicle being of a type that  
14 complies with the requirements of this Title. The form and contents  
15 of the registration certificate to be issued shall be determined by the  
16 chief administrator.

17 If the vehicle is a leased motor vehicle, the registration  
18 certificate shall, in addition to containing the name and street  
19 address of the lessor, identify the vehicle as a leased motor vehicle.

20 The chief administrator shall maintain a record of all registration  
21 certificates issued, and of the contents thereof.

22 Every registration shall expire and the registration certificate  
23 thereof become void on the registrant's numerical calendar day of  
24 birth in the 12th calendar month following the calendar month in  
25 which the certificate was issued; except that the registration shall  
26 expire on the last day of the 12th calendar month following the  
27 calendar month in which the certificate was issued if the numerical  
28 calendar day of the registrant's birth does not correspond to a  
29 numerical calendar day in that month or if the vehicle is a leased  
30 motor vehicle.

31 The chief administrator may, at the chief administrator's  
32 discretion, require registrations which shall expire, and issue  
33 certificates thereof which shall become void, on a date fixed by  
34 him, which date shall not be sooner than three months nor later than  
35 26 months after the date of issuance of the certificates, and the fees  
36 for the registrations, including any other fees or charges collected in  
37 connection with the registration fee, shall be fixed by the chief  
38 administrator in amounts proportionately less or greater than the  
39 fees established by law. The chief administrator may fix the  
40 expiration date for registration certificates at a date other than 12  
41 months if the chief administrator determines that the change is  
42 necessary, appropriate or convenient in order to aid in  
43 implementing the vehicle inspection requirements of chapter 8 of  
44 Title 39 or for other good cause. The chief administrator may, for  
45 good cause extend a registration beyond the expiration date that  
46 appears upon the registration certificate for periods not to exceed 12  
47 additional months. The chief administrator may extend the

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1 expiration date of a registration without payment of a proportionate  
2 fee when the chief administrator determines that the extension is  
3 necessary for good cause. If any registration is so extended, the  
4 owner shall pay upon renewal the full registration fee for the period  
5 fixed by the chief administrator as if no extension had been granted.

6 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary,  
7 every registration for new passenger automobiles shall expire and  
8 the registration certificate shall become void on the registrant's  
9 numerical calendar day of birth in the 48th calendar month  
10 following the calendar month in which the certificate was initially  
11 issued; except that the registration shall expire on the last day of the  
12 48th calendar month following the calendar month in which the  
13 certificate was initially issued if the numerical calendar day of the  
14 registrant's birth does not correspond to a numerical calendar day in  
15 that month.

16 On and after February 1, 2005, the provisions of this paragraph  
17 shall not apply to new passenger automobiles purchased by a rental  
18 company for use as rental passenger automobiles. As used in this  
19 paragraph, "rental company" means a person engaged in the  
20 business of renting motor vehicles; and "rental passenger  
21 automobile" means a passenger automobile that is rented without a  
22 driver and used in the transportation of persons or property other  
23 than commercial freight.

24 If the new passenger automobile being registered is a leased  
25 passenger automobile, the registration shall expire in accordance  
26 with the term of the lease. If the term of the lease extends beyond  
27 one or more 12-month periods by one or more months, the  
28 registration period shall be based upon the full year into which one  
29 or more of the months extend; provided, however, the registration  
30 period for a leased automobile shall not exceed 48 months.

31 Following the 48-month period of the initial registration of a new  
32 passenger automobile, the subsequent registration shall expire, and  
33 the registration certificate shall become void, on the registrant's  
34 numerical calendar day of birth in the 12th calendar month  
35 following the calendar month in which the certificate was next  
36 issued; except that the registration shall expire on the last day of the  
37 12th calendar month following the calendar month in which the  
38 certificate was next issued if the numerical calendar day of the  
39 registrant's birth does not correspond to a numerical calendar day in  
40 that month.

41 All motorcycles for which registrations have been issued prior to  
42 the effective date of P.L.1989, c.167 and which are scheduled to  
43 expire between November 1 and March 31 shall, upon renewal, be  
44 issued registrations by the chief administrator which shall expire on  
45 a date fixed by him, but in no case shall that expiration date be  
46 earlier than April 30 nor later than October 31. The fees for the

1 renewal of the motorcycle registrations authorized under this  
2 paragraph shall be fixed by the chief administrator in an amount  
3 proportionately less or greater than the fee established by R.S.39:3-  
4 21.

5 Application forms for all renewals of registrations for passenger  
6 automobiles shall be sent to the last addresses of owners of motor  
7 vehicles and motorcycles, as they appear on the records of the  
8 commission.

9 A person owning or having control over any unregistered vehicle  
10 shall not permit the same to be parked or to stand on a public  
11 highway.

12 Any police officer is authorized to remove any unregistered  
13 vehicle from the public highway to a storage space or garage, and  
14 the expense involved in the removal and storing of the vehicle shall  
15 be borne by the owner of the vehicle, except that the expense shall  
16 be borne by the lessee of a leased vehicle.

17 Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be  
18 subject to a fine not exceeding \$100, except that for the  
19 misstatement of any fact in the application required to be made to  
20 the chief administrator, the person making the statement or omitting  
21 the statement that the motor vehicle is to be used as a leased motor  
22 vehicle when that is the case shall be subject to the penalties  
23 provided in R.S.39:3-37.

24 The chief administrator may extend the expiration date of a  
25 registration certificate without payment of a proportionate fee when  
26 the chief administrator determines that the extension is necessary,  
27 appropriate or convenient to the implementation of vehicle  
28 inspection requirements. If any registration certificate is so  
29 extended, the owner shall pay upon renewal the full registration fee  
30 for the period fixed by the chief administrator as if no extension had  
31 been granted.

32 The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission shall make a  
33 reasonable effort to notify any lessor whose name and address is on  
34 file with the commission, or any other lessor the commission may  
35 determine it is necessary to notify, of the requirements of this  
36 amendatory act.

37 A lessor doing business in this State shall notify in writing the  
38 lessee of a motor vehicle registered pursuant to this Title of any  
39 change in its policies or procedures affecting the registration of the  
40 motor vehicle.

41 (cf: P.L.2017, c.217, s.1)

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43 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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## STATEMENT

This bill requires an owner of an automobile or motorcycle applying to register the automobile or motorcycle in the State to provide the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) with a personal or business telephone number at which the owner can be reached.

Under current law, an owner applying to register an automobile or motorcycle in the State is required to provide the owner's name, street address of the owner's residence or business, mailing address, and age, along with a description of the character of the automobile or motorcycle. This bill requires an owner to also provide the owner's personal or business telephone number.

The bill exempts individuals applying to register an automobile or motorcycle who are victims of certain crimes from providing a telephone number to MVC.