

SENATE, No. 1983

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 5, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator ROBERT W. SINGER

District 30 (Monmouth and Ocean)

Senator NICHOLAS J. SACCO

District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Requires NJT to adopt plan to evacuate passengers when rail passenger vehicle becomes immobilized in tunnel.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 8/10/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning service provided to customers of the New
2 Jersey Transit Corporation and supplementing Title 27 of the
3 Revised Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. The New Jersey Transit Corporation shall adopt a
9 contingency plan in the event that a rail passenger train or light rail
10 vehicle owned or operated by the corporation becomes immobilized
11 inside of a tunnel. The plan shall provide that the corporation shall
12 exercise due diligence to safely mobilize and relocate the train or
13 vehicle to a location outside of the tunnel within one hour of the
14 train or vehicle becoming immobilized. If the corporation is unable
15 to safely mobilize and relocate the train or vehicle to a location
16 outside of the tunnel within one hour, the plan shall provide that the
17 corporation shall exercise due diligence to safely evacuate the
18 passengers from the train or vehicle and relocate the passengers to a
19 location outside of the tunnel within one hour of the train becoming
20 immobilized.

21 b. If the corporation fails to safely evacuate and relocate the
22 passengers of a rail passenger train or light rail vehicle immobilized
23 inside of a tunnel to a location outside of the tunnel within one hour
24 of the train or vehicle becoming immobilized, the corporation shall:

25 (1) prepare and issue a report on the immobilization that details
26 why the corporation failed to safely evacuate and relocate the
27 passengers within the required timeframe; and

28 (2) upon request by any committee of the Legislature, require
29 the executive director of the corporation, and any other employee
30 whose appearance is requested by the committee, to appear before
31 that committee to answer questions and provide information on the
32 immobilization and the corporation's failure to safely evacuate and
33 relocate the passengers within the required timeframe.

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35 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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40 This bill requires the New Jersey Transit Corporation (NJ
41 Transit) to adopt a contingency plan in the event that a rail
42 passenger train or light rail vehicle owned or operated by NJ Transit
43 becomes immobilized inside of a tunnel. The plan is to provide that
44 NJ Transit exercise due diligence to safely relocate the train or
45 vehicle to a location outside of the tunnel within one hour of the
46 immobilization. If that is not possible, the plan is to require NJ
47 Transit to exercise due diligence to safely evacuate the passengers

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1 from the train or vehicle and relocate them to a location outside of
2 the tunnel within one hour of the immobilization.

3 If NJ Transit fails to safely evacuate and relocate the passengers
4 within one hour, NJ Transit is required to issue a report and to
5 appear before any legislative committee, upon request by that
6 committee, explaining why NJ Transit failed to meet the required
7 timeframe.