

SENATE, No. 2308

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED APRIL 9, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator JAMES W. HOLZAPFEL

District 10 (Ocean)

SYNOPSIS

Requires State agencies to review operations and to implement use of Internet to conduct public business when cost savings may be realized, with certain exceptions.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT requiring State agencies to review operations and
2 implement use of the Internet to conduct public business when
3 cost savings may be realized and supplementing Title 52 of the
4 Revised Statutes.

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

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9 1. a. Within six months after the effective date of this act, the
10 head of every State agency shall complete a review of that agency's
11 operations for the purpose of determining whether there are ways
12 that the agency could reduce costs through increased use of the
13 Internet, including electronic mail, to provide services and conduct
14 public business. The review shall include an examination of every
15 agency function that involves: providing or receiving information,
16 including the filing or release of reports and forms; communicating
17 with the public or with any individual, business or federal, State or
18 local government agency, as well as with any employee or unit
19 within the State agency; and the acceptance or disbursement of any
20 payment, as well as any other agency activity the head of the
21 agency deems relevant. Upon completion of the review, the head of
22 the State agency shall require that agency and its employees, when
23 feasible, to implement use of the Internet in every instance when it
24 has been determined that a cost savings may be realized.

25 b. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to amend, delete or
26 otherwise change any existing statute, rule or regulation that
27 requires or permits notice to individuals by certified or registered
28 mail and the publication of official notices by a State agency in
29 newspapers circulating within this State or within units of local
30 government of this State.

31 As used in this section, "State agency" means any of the
32 principal departments in the Executive Branch of State government,
33 and any division, board, bureau, office, commission or other
34 instrumentality within or created by such department; the
35 Legislative Branch, and any office, board, bureau or commission
36 within or created by the Legislative Branch; the Judicial Branch and
37 any office, board, bureau or commission within or created by the
38 Judicial Branch; any independent authority, commission,
39 instrumentality or agency of the State; and any interstate agency to
40 which New Jersey is a party to the extent permitted by law.

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42 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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45 STATEMENT

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47 This bill provides that within six months after the bill's effective
48 date, the head of every State agency will complete a review of that

1 agency's operations for the purpose of determining whether there are
2 ways that the agency could reduce costs through increased use of the
3 Internet, including electronic mail, to provide services and conduct
4 public business. The review will include an examination of every
5 agency function that involves: providing or receiving information,
6 including the filing or release of reports and forms; communicating
7 with the public or with any individual, business or federal, State or
8 local government agency, as well as with any employee or unit within
9 the State agency; and the acceptance or disbursement of any payment,
10 as well as any other agency activity the head of the agency deems
11 relevant.

12 Nothing in the bill would be deemed to amend, delete or otherwise
13 change any existing statute, rule or regulation that requires or permits
14 notice to individuals by certified or registered mail and the publication
15 of official notices by a State agency in newspapers circulating within
16 this State or within units of local government of this State.

17 Upon completion of the review, the head of the State agency
18 will require the agency and its employees, when feasible, to
19 implement use of the Internet in every instance when it has been
20 determined that a cost savings may be realized.