

# SENATE, No. 2959

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JOSEPH P. CRYAN**

**District 20 (Union)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes crime for failing to disclose infection from virus associated with Coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic, or related viral strain in subsequent years, to transportation network company driver prior to entering vehicle for electronically-coordinated prearranged ride.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** establishing a crime for failing to disclose infection from  
2 the virus associated with the Coronavirus disease 2019  
3 pandemic, or related viral strain to that virus in subsequent years,  
4 to a transportation network company driver under certain  
5 circumstances, and supplementing chapter 34 of Title 2C of the  
6 New Jersey Statutes.

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

10  
11 1. A person is guilty of a crime of the fourth degree if, after  
12 using a transportation network company's digital network to  
13 connect with a transportation network company driver for a  
14 prearranged ride in that driver's personal vehicle, but prior to that  
15 person entering the vehicle, or prior to any other passenger for  
16 whom the prearranged ride is made entering the vehicle, the person  
17 knowingly fails to disclose to the driver that the person, or any  
18 other passenger, is currently diagnosed as being infected with the  
19 virus SARS-CoV-2 or the disease caused by the virus, Coronavirus  
20 disease 2019, also referred to as COVID-19, or currently diagnosed  
21 as being infected with a related viral strain to that virus or a disease  
22 caused by the related viral strain in subsequent years. The  
23 disclosure may be made to the driver using the transportation  
24 network company's digital network prior to the driver's arrival at  
25 the location to transport the person or any other passenger, if that  
26 means of communication is available using the network, or made to  
27 the driver upon the driver's arrival at the location to transport the  
28 person or any other passenger.

29 As used in this section, the terms "digital network," "personal  
30 vehicle," "prearranged ride," "transportation network company,"  
31 and "transportation network company driver" mean the same as  
32 those terms are defined in section 2 of P.L.2017, c.26 (C.39:5H-2).

33  
34 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

35  
36  
37 **STATEMENT**

38  
39 This bill would create a new crime for knowingly failing to  
40 disclose being currently diagnosed as infected with the virus SARS-  
41 CoV-2 or the disease caused by the virus, Coronavirus disease  
42 2019, also referred to as COVID-19, or currently diagnosed as  
43 being infected with a related viral strain to that virus or a disease  
44 caused by the related viral strain in subsequent years, after using a  
45 transportation network company's digital network to connect with a  
46 transportation network company driver for a prearranged ride in that  
47 driver's personal vehicle. The disclosure would have to be made to  
48 the driver prior to the person entering the vehicle, or prior to any

1 other passenger for whom the prearranged ride is made entering the  
2 vehicle. The disclosure could be made using the transportation  
3 network company's digital network prior to the driver's arrival at  
4 the location to transport the person or any other passenger, if that  
5 means of communication was available using the network, or made  
6 upon the driver's arrival at the location to transport the person or  
7 any other passenger. The transportation-related terms used in the  
8 bill, which describe companies such as Lyft and Uber, are based  
9 upon those terms as defined in the "Transportation Network  
10 Company Safety and Regulatory Act," P.L.2017, c.26 (C.39:5H-  
11 1 et al.), which provides oversight for such companies.

12 The failure to disclose the diagnosis to a driver would be graded  
13 a crime of the fourth degree, making the crime punishable by a term  
14 of imprisonment of up to 18 months, a fine of up to \$10,000, or  
15 both.