

SENATE, No. 3334

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 11, 2021

Sponsored by:

Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Senator JAMES BEACH

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Turner

SYNOPSIS

Requires State agencies to make their websites accessible to people with disabilities and on mobile devices.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/22/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning the websites of State government agencies and
2 amending of P.L.2007, c.56.

3

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

6

7 1. Section 16 of P.L.2007, c.56 (C.52:18A-234) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 16. a. All Executive Branch departments and State agencies are
10 directed to cooperate fully with the Office of Information
11 Technology and the Chief Technology Officer to implement the
12 provisions of sections 6 through 16 of P.L.2007, c.56 (C.52:18A-224
13 through C.52:18A-234) and to ensure effective use of information
14 technology within the Executive Branch of State Government.

15 The Governor shall define and establish the overall direction,
16 standards, and priorities for the information technology community
17 in the Executive Branch of State Government.

18 b. The Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0
19 Level AA, or the most up-to-date version of the guidelines, shall be
20 the accessibility standard for the web pages, sites, and services of all
21 State agencies. Each web page, site, and service shall be configured
22 in such a way that it can be navigated, viewed, and accessed on a
23 smartphone, tablet computer, or similar mobile device.

24 The Chief Technology Officer shall establish the protocol by
25 which a State agency can determine that its web pages, sites, and
26 services comply with the requirements in this subsection.
27 Compliance shall be certified by the Chief Technology Officer. A
28 web page, site, or service that is in operation on the effective date of
29 P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be
30 certified by the Chief Technology Officer no later than two years
31 from that effective date as being in compliance with the
32 requirements. A web page, site, or service created after the effective
33 date of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall
34 not be considered operational until it has been certified by the Chief
35 Technology Officer as being in compliance with the requirements.
36 The Chief Technology Officer shall recertify the compliance of each
37 web page, site, and service every two years after initial certification.

38 As used in this subsection, "State agency" means the Executive
39 and Legislative Branch of the State, including, but not limited to, any
40 department, board, bureau, commission, division, office, council,
41 agency, or instrumentality thereof, or independent agency, public
42 authority, or public benefit corporation.

43 (cf: P.L.2013, c.253, s.47)

44

45 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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.

STATEMENT

This bill requires that the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 AA, or the most up-to-date version of the guidelines, must be the accessibility standard for the websites of all State agencies, and each website must be configured in such a way that it can be navigated, viewed, and accessed on a smartphone, tablet computer, or similar mobile device.

The WCAG guidelines make content accessible for people with disabilities.

The Chief Technology Officer must establish the protocol by which a State agency can determine that its websites comply with the requirements. The Chief Technology Officer must certify each website's compliance two years after the bill's effective date and recertify compliance once every two years thereafter.

As used in this bill, "State agency" means the Executive and Legislative Branch of the State, including, but not limited to, any department, board, bureau, commission, division, office, council, agency, or instrumentality thereof, or independent agency, public authority, or public benefit corporation.