

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 104

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 21, 2021

Sponsored by:

Senator NILSA I. CRUZ-PEREZ

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Senator ANTHONY M. BUCCO

District 25 (Morris and Somerset)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Holzapfel and Gopal

SYNOPSIS

Establishes “Commission to Review Impact of COVID-19 on Small Businesses.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/4/2021)

1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** establishing the “Commission to Review the
2 Impact of COVID-19 on Small Businesses.”

3
4 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*
5 *State of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. a. There is hereby established the “Commission to Review
8 the Impact of COVID-19 on Small Businesses.”

9 b. The commission shall consist of eleven members, three of
10 whom shall be appointed by the Governor, four of whom shall be
11 appointed by the Senate President, and four of whom shall be
12 appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly. Of the three
13 members appointed by the Governor, one shall be the
14 Commissioner of the Department of Health, or the commissioner’s
15 designee, who shall serve ex officio, one shall be a representative of
16 the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce, and one shall be a
17 representative of the New Jersey Business and Industry Association.
18 Of the four members appointed by the Senate President, one shall
19 be the Senate Majority Leader, one shall be the Senate Minority
20 Leader, and two shall be public members, one with a background in
21 health care and one with a background in the hospitality industry, or
22 small business ownership or management. Of the four members
23 appointed by the Speaker, one shall be the Majority Leader of the
24 General Assembly, one shall be the Minority Leader of the General
25 Assembly, and two shall be public members, one with a background
26 in health care and one with a background in the hospitality industry,
27 or small business ownership or management.

28 c. Any vacancy in the membership of the commission shall be
29 filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was
30 made.

31 d. It shall be the duty of the commission to review existing
32 administrative rules and regulations, or any Executive Order, or
33 local or county rule or regulation that is issued in response to the
34 public health emergency declared pursuant to Executive Order 103,
35 to analyze the impact on small businesses, investment and economic
36 growth in the State, and the ability for the economy to recover.
37 After each meeting, the commission shall issue a report to the
38 Governor and to the State Legislature, pursuant to section 2 of
39 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), that includes the commission’s
40 findings and recommendations on the existing administrative rule or
41 regulation, or any Executive Order, or local or county rule or
42 regulation that was issued in response to the current public health
43 emergency.

44 e. The members of the commission shall be appointed within
45 20 days following the date of enactment of this section. The
46 commission shall organize as soon as is practicable after the
47 appointment of its members, and shall select a chairperson from
48 among its membership and a secretary who need not be a member

1 of the commission. The presence of six members of the commission
 2 shall constitute a quorum. The commission may conduct business
 3 without a quorum, but may only vote on recommendations when a
 4 quorum is present. The commission shall be entitled to call to its
 5 assistance and avail itself of the services of the employees of any
 6 State, county, or municipal department, board, bureau, commission,
 7 authority, or agency as it may require, and as may be available to it
 8 for its purposes. Members of the commission shall serve without
 9 compensation, but shall be entitled to employ stenographic and
 10 clerical assistance and incur traveling and other miscellaneous
 11 expenses as it may deem necessary in order to perform its duties,
 12 within the limits of funds appropriated or otherwise made available
 13 to it for its purposes. The commission shall meet regularly for the
 14 duration of the public health emergency, at the times and in the
 15 places the chairperson may deem appropriate and necessary to
 16 effectuate the commission's duties, and it shall conduct at least
 17 three public hearings at such place or places as the chairperson shall
 18 designate.

19 f. As used in this section, "small business" means a business
 20 which has its principal place of business in the State, is
 21 independently owned and operated, and has 100 or fewer full-time
 22 employees.

23

24 2. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately, and shall
 25 expire upon the expiration of the public health emergency declared
 26 by the Governor pursuant to Executive Order 103, or any extension
 27 thereof or any replacement therefor.

28

29

30

STATEMENT

31

32 This joint resolution establishes the "Commission to Review the
 33 Impact of COVID-19 on Small Businesses." The commission is to
 34 consist of eleven members: three members appointed by the
 35 Governor, which are to include the Commissioner of the
 36 Department of Health, a representative of the New Jersey Chamber
 37 Commerce, and a representative of the New Jersey Business and
 38 Industry Association; four members appointed by the Senate
 39 President which are to include the Senate Majority Leader, the
 40 Senate Minority Leader, and two public members, one with a
 41 background in health care and one with a background in the
 42 hospitality industry, or small business ownership or management;
 43 and four members appointed by the Speaker of the General
 44 Assembly, which are to include the Majority Leader of the General
 45 Assembly, the Minority Leader of the General Assembly; two
 46 public members, one with a background in health care, and one with
 47 a background in the hospitality industry, or small business
 48 ownership or management. Members of the commission are to be

1 appointed within 20 days following the date of enactment of the
2 joint resolution. The commission is to hold at least three public
3 hearings.

4 Under the joint resolution, the commission is to review existing
5 administrative rules and regulations, or any Executive Order, or
6 local or county rule or regulation that is issued in response to the
7 public health emergency declared pursuant to Executive Order 103,
8 to analyze their impact on small businesses, investment and
9 economic growth in the State, and the ability for the economy to
10 recover. After each meeting, the commission is to issue a report to
11 the Governor and State Legislature that includes the commission's
12 findings and recommendations on these existing administrative rule
13 or regulation, or Executive Order, or local or county rule or
14 regulation that was issued in response to the current public health
15 emergency.