

ASSEMBLY, No. 2369

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 28, 2022

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman YVONNE LOPEZ

District 19 (Middlesex)

Assemblywoman AURA K. DUNN

District 25 (Morris and Somerset)

Assemblyman THOMAS P. GIBLIN

District 34 (Essex and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Caputo

SYNOPSIS

Requires MVC to provide notation on driver's license or identification card, upon request, of persons diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder or other communication disorder.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/7/2022)

1 AN ACT concerning protections for drivers with certain medical
2 conditions and supplementing Title 39 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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7 1. a. The Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle
8 Commission shall allow the holder of a driver's license or non-driver
9 identification card to indicate that the person has been diagnosed with
10 an autism spectrum disorder or communication disorder.

11 b. Upon request by any person who has been diagnosed with an
12 autism spectrum disorder or communication disorder and submission
13 of any documentation required pursuant to subsection c. of this
14 section, the chief administrator shall indicate the autism spectrum
15 disorder or communication disorder diagnosis by notating such
16 information on the person's driver's license or non-driver
17 identification card under the column designated for restrictions.

18 c. The chief administrator shall, in consultation with the
19 Commissioner of Human Services, establish the documentation
20 required to be produced by a person who has been diagnosed with an
21 autism spectrum disorder or communication disorder, or by the parent,
22 guardian, or caregiver of the person, in order to receive a driver's
23 license or non-driver identification card with the notation authorized
24 pursuant to subsection b. of this section.

25 d. The Commissioner of Human Services, in consultation with the
26 Superintendent of the Division of State Police within the Department
27 of Law and Public Safety and at least one organization that advocates
28 on behalf of persons who have been diagnosed with an autism
29 spectrum disorder or communication disorder, shall provide written
30 guidance to assist law enforcement officers in effectively
31 communicating with a person who has been diagnosed with an autism
32 spectrum disorder or communication disorder. The commissioner
33 shall distribute a copy of the written guidance to each police
34 department in the State.

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36 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the thirteenth
37 month following enactment.

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STATEMENT

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42 This bill requires the Chief Administrator (chief administrator)
43 of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission to allow the holder
44 of a driver's license or non-driver identification card to indicate that
45 the person has been diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder or
46 communication disorder, upon request of the person and submission
47 of any required documentation. The chief administrator is to
48 indicate the diagnosis by notating the information on the person's

1 driver's license or non-driver identification card under the column
2 designated for restrictions.

3 The bill also requires the Commissioner of Human Services, in
4 consultation with the Superintendent of the State Police and at least
5 one organization that advocates on behalf of persons diagnosed with
6 an autism spectrum disorder or communication disorder, to provide
7 written guidance to assist law enforcement officers in effectively
8 communicating with a person diagnosed with an autism spectrum
9 disorder or communication disorder. The commissioner is required
10 to distribute a copy of the written guidance to each police
11 department in the State.