

# ASSEMBLY, No. 1476

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

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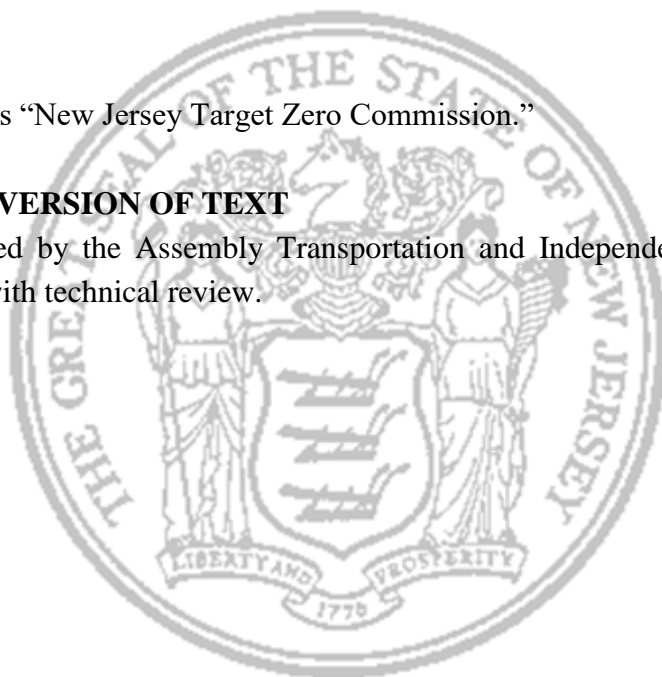
**Assemblyman Spearman, Assemblywomen Lopez, Speight, Swain, Collazos-Gill, Assemblymen Calabrese, Danielsen, Assemblywoman Reynolds-Jackson, Assemblyman Bailey, Assemblywoman Ramirez, Assemblyman Freiman, Assemblywomen Haider, Lampitt, McCoy, Assemblymen Tully and Sampson**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes "New Jersey Target Zero Commission."

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Transportation and Independent Authorities Committee with technical review.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/17/2024)**

1 AN ACT establishing the “New Jersey Target Zero Commission”  
2 and supplementing Title 27 of the Revised Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. a. There is established in, but not of, the Department of  
8 Transportation, the “New Jersey Target Zero Commission.”

9 b. The commission shall consist of 13 members, as follows:

10 (1) the Commissioner of Transportation, ex officio, or the  
11 commissioner’s designee;

12 (2) the Superintendent of State Police, ex officio, or the  
13 superintendent’s designee;

14 (3) the Commissioner of Health, ex officio, or the commissioner’s  
15 designee;

16 (4) the Commissioner of Community Affairs, ex officio, or the  
17 commissioner’s designee;

18 (5) the Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle  
19 Commission, ex officio, or the chief administrator’s designee;

20 (6) the Commissioner of Human Services, ex officio, or the  
21 commissioner’s designee;

22 (7) the Director of Highway Traffic Safety, ex officio, or the  
23 director’s designee;

24 (8) the Director of the Office of Environmental Justice in the  
25 Department of Environmental Protection, ex officio, or the director’s  
26 designee;

27 (9) the Executive Director of the New Jersey Transit Corporation,  
28 ex officio, or the executive director’s designee;

29 (10) the Executive Director of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority,  
30 ex officio, or the executive director’s designee;

31 (11) the Executive Director of the Delaware Valley Regional  
32 Planning Commission, ex officio, or the executive director’s designee;

33 (12) the Executive Director of the North Jersey Transportation  
34 Planning Authority, ex officio, or the executive director’s designee;  
35 and

36 (13) the Executive Director of the South Jersey Transportation  
37 Planning Organization, ex officio, or the executive director’s designee.

38 c. The commission shall hold its initial meeting as soon as  
39 practicable, but no later than 60 days after the effective date of P.L. ,

40 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). The  
41 chairperson of the commission shall be the Commissioner of  
42 Transportation, and the commission shall meet no less than twice per  
43 year at such places and times as the chairperson may designate. The  
44 commission shall hold a minimum of two annual public hearings. The  
45 chairperson may appoint a secretary who need not be a member of the  
46 commission.

47 d. The commission shall meet with key stakeholders, advocates,  
48 and experts, and shall consult with policy experts in the fields of

1 bicycle and pedestrian safety, mobility, visual or cognitive  
2 impairments, and motor vehicle crashes for expertise and input.

3 e. The Department of Transportation shall provide professional,  
4 stenographic, and clerical staff to the commission, as may be necessary  
5 for the commission to carry out its duties. The commission shall also  
6 be entitled to call upon the services of any State, county, or municipal  
7 department, board, commission, or agency, as may be available to it  
8 for its purposes.

9

10 2. a. For the purposes of this section:

11 “Active transportation” means pedestrian mobility, such as  
12 walking and running, individual use of personal conveyances for  
13 mobility powered by human effort or electric motors, and personal  
14 conveyances that consider and address accommodations pursuant to  
15 the “Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990” (42 U.S.C. s.12101 et  
16 seq.).

17 “Bicycle” means the same as the term is defined in section 2 of  
18 P.L.1975, c.328 (C.39:4-14.5).

19 “Pedestrian” shall include, but not be limited to: a pedestrian as  
20 defined in R.S.39:1-1; a person in a wheelchair or motorized  
21 wheelchair as defined in R.S.39:1-1; and a person employed by or who  
22 contracts with any public utility company in this State, a property  
23 maintenance worker, or any other person who is permitted by law to  
24 be upon the roadway and outside a motor vehicle for work or  
25 recreation and is upon a roadway and outside a motor vehicle for work  
26 or recreation.

27 “Personal conveyance” shall include:

- 28 (1) a bicycle as defined in this section;  
29 (2) a low-speed electric bicycle as defined in R.S.39:1-1;  
30 (3) a low-speed electric scooter as defined in R.S.39:1-1;  
31 (4) a manual wheelchair;  
32 (5) a motorized wheelchair as defined in R.S.39:1-1, or similar  
33 mobility assisting devices used by persons with physical disabilities, or  
34 by persons whose ambulatory mobility has been impaired by age or  
35 illness;  
36 (6) an electric personal assistive mobility device as defined in  
37 section 1 of P.L.2001, c.430 (C.39:4-14.10);  
38 (7) a motorized scooter as defined in R.S.39:1-1;  
39 (8) a skateboard;  
40 (9) a motorized skateboard as defined in R.S.39:1-1;  
41 (10) roller skates as defined in section 1 of P.L.1997, c.411  
42 (C.39:4-10.5); and  
43 (11) any other means used by a person for transportation.

44 “Safe system approach” means evaluating traffic safety and  
45 designing a transportation system with the goal of eliminating fatal and  
46 serious injuries for all road users by acknowledging that: traffic deaths  
47 and serious injuries are unacceptable, humans make mistakes, humans

1 are vulnerable, responsibility is shared, safety is proactive, and  
2 redundancy is crucial.

3 “Target zero strategies” means actionable strategies using the safe  
4 system approach and include, but are not limited to: (1) prioritizing  
5 roadway design and design of sidewalks; crosswalks; roadway  
6 shoulders; personal conveyance parking; access to public transit,  
7 schools, and parks; and intersections and corridors with paths, trails,  
8 and multiuse greenways; (2) focusing on speed management; (3)  
9 ensuring enforcement is equitable; and (4) utilizing impactful  
10 education strategies and inclusive community engagement.

11 b. The purpose and duties of the commission shall be to study,  
12 examine, and review all aspects of traffic safety with a particular focus  
13 on access, equity, and mobility for all road users using the safe system  
14 approach and to advise the Governor, the Legislature, and the  
15 Department of Transportation regarding policies, programs, research,  
16 and priorities to help achieve the goal of eliminating traffic fatalities  
17 and serious injuries. To fulfill this purpose and these duties, the  
18 commission shall:

19 (1) develop a comprehensive and coordinated action plan to help  
20 achieve the goal of eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries on  
21 all public roadways in the State by 2040 through engineering,  
22 education, and enforcement systems that analyze physical  
23 transportation designs with a focus on the equitable treatment of all  
24 transportation users;

25 (2) identify short-term and long-term data-driven strategies with  
26 measurable goals and target dates to reduce traffic fatalities and  
27 serious injuries with the goal of eliminating all traffic fatalities and  
28 serious injuries by 2040;

29 (3) adopt the action plan no later than the first day of the 12th  
30 month following the effective date of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending  
31 before the Legislature as this bill), except that before adopting the  
32 action plan, the commission shall host a public hearing to receive  
33 public feedback concerning the proposed action plan, which proposed  
34 action plan shall be published on the commission’s Internet website no  
35 less than 72 hours before the public hearing;

36 (4) promote effective and transparent collection of traffic safety  
37 data and dissemination of such data via a publicly accessible data  
38 portal that includes, but is not limited to, the most dangerous  
39 intersections in the State, traffic crash data with information on non-  
40 fatal injuries and demographic data, and a high injury network that  
41 indicates the roadways, in the State, with the highest injury rates;

42 (5) encourage the elimination of road hazards by advancing active  
43 transportation and mass transit as safe and viable forms of  
44 transportation throughout the State for persons of all ages and abilities;

45 (6) provide recommendations for changes to State, county, and  
46 municipal law to achieve the goal of eliminating all traffic fatalities  
47 and serious injuries by 2040;

- 1 (7) develop the action plan to implement and promote the safe  
2 system approach, target zero strategies, and evidenced-based safety  
3 countermeasures to help achieve the goal of eliminating traffic  
4 fatalities and severe injuries among all road users by 2040;
- 5 (8) create and maintain an interactive Internet website to provide  
6 information about the commission, including: the membership of the  
7 commission; the commission's plans, progress reports, meeting  
8 notices, agendas, and minutes; educational materials about target zero;  
9 a link to the safety portal required pursuant to paragraph (4) of this  
10 subsection; and any other information the commission deems  
11 necessary;
- 12 (9) serve as an advisor to the Department of Transportation and  
13 other State agencies and transportation authorities with regard to  
14 roadway planning and transportation infrastructure planning;
- 15 (10) provide advice and assistance to county and municipal  
16 governments to develop their own target zero plans; and
- 17 (11) report annually to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of  
18 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature on the findings and  
19 activities of the commission, including the number of road traffic  
20 fatalities and serious injuries and the review of the implementation of  
21 the action plans. The commission shall submit the report before the  
22 third Sunday in November of each year, which is World Day of  
23 Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims.
- 24
- 25 3. The Department of Transportation shall promulgate such rules  
26 and regulations, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"  
27 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as are necessary to effectuate  
28 the provisions of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the  
29 Legislature as this bill).
- 30
- 31 4. This act shall take effect immediately.