

SENATE, No. 2328

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 25, 2024

Sponsored by:

Senator JAMES BEACH

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Requires State to use certain energy-efficient outdoor lighting fixtures.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



S2328 BEACH

2

1 AN ACT regulating certain outdoor lighting fixtures and
2 supplementing chapter 34 of Title 52 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. The Legislature finds and declares that:

8 a. Unnecessary outdoor lighting squanders money and energy.

9 b. Unshielded outdoor lights are responsible for emitting
10 pollutants, including carbon dioxide and wasted light.

11 c. Over-lighting during non-daylight hours neither improves
12 visibility nor increases nighttime safety.

13 d. Removing unnecessary lighting and utilizing efficient light
14 sources saves money and improves the nighttime environment,
15 often at minimal expense.

16 e. It is in the public interest to minimize misdirected and
17 upward light from luminaires to promote the State's fiscal health
18 and to preserve New Jersey's natural nighttime environment.

19 f. It is necessary to regulate the State's outdoor lighting to
20 conserve energy and resources to the greatest extent possible while
21 permitting reasonable uses of outdoor lighting for nighttime safety,
22 utility, security, commerce, and enjoyment.

23

24 2. As used in P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
25 Legislature as this bill):

26 "Cutoff luminaire" means a luminaire whose luminous intensity
27 in candelas at or above an angle of 90 degrees above nadir does not
28 numerically exceed 2.5 percent of the luminous flux, in lumens, of
29 the lamp or lamps in the luminaire, and the luminous intensity, in
30 candelas, at or above a vertical angle of 80 degrees above nadir
31 does not numerically exceed 10 percent of the luminous flux of the
32 lamp or lamps in the luminaire.

33 "Energy conservation" means the reduction of energy costs and
34 resources by use of methods including, but not limited to, the use of
35 light fixtures with the lowest feasible wattage or a photo-sensitive
36 or timer switch.

37 "Lumen" means an international standard unit of luminous flux
38 representing the quantity of visible light output.

39 "Luminaire" means the complete lighting unit fixture consisting
40 of a lamp, or lamps and ballasts, together with the parts designed to
41 distribute light, including, but not limited to, a reflector, lens, and
42 diffuser, to position and protect the lamps, and to connect the lamps
43 to the power supply.

44 "Luminous flux" means the measure of the perceived power of
45 the light in lumens.

46 "Outdoor lighting fixture" means any type of fixed or movable
47 lighting equipment that is designed or used for illumination
48 outdoors, including street lights, searchlights, and area lighting.

S2328 BEACH

1 “Outdoor lighting fixture” shall not include lighting equipment that
2 is required by law to be installed on motor vehicles, lighting
3 required for the safe operation of aircraft, or lighting used for
4 advertising purposes.

5 “State” means the State of New Jersey and any office,
6 department, division, bureau, board, commission, authority, agency,
7 or instrumentality of the State, but does not include counties,
8 municipalities, school districts, and county or municipal authorities.

9

10 3. a. The State shall install, replace, or maintain an outdoor
11 lighting fixture by using State funds only if:

12 (1) any outdoor lighting fixture with a rated output greater than
13 1,800 lumens is installed or replaced with a cutoff luminaire;

14 (2) the minimum illuminance adequate for the intended purpose
15 is used with consideration given to nationally recognized standards;

16 (3) for lighting of a designated highway of the State highway
17 system, the Department of Transportation determines that the
18 purpose of the outdoor lighting fixture cannot be achieved by the
19 installation of reflective road markers, lines, warning or
20 informational signs, or other effective passive methods; and

21 (4) full consideration has been given to energy conservation,
22 reducing glare, minimizing light pollution, and preserving the
23 natural night environment.

24 b. Subsection a. of this section shall not apply if:

25 (1) the outdoor lighting fixture is used on a temporary basis
26 because emergency personnel require additional illumination for
27 emergency procedures;

28 (2) the outdoor lighting fixture is used on a temporary basis for
29 nighttime work;

30 (3) the outdoor lighting fixture is used for a special event or
31 situation requiring additional illumination that cannot be produced
32 by another method;

33 (4) a compelling safety interest exists that cannot be addressed
34 by another method;

35 (5) the replacement of outdoor lighting fixtures constitutes less
36 than 30 percent of an entire outdoor lighting system at a New Jersey
37 Transit Corporation facility, or an outdoor lighting fixture at a New
38 Jersey Transit Corporation facility that was approved by the New
39 Jersey Historic Preservation Office in the Department of
40 Environmental Protection;

41 (6) a federal law supersedes or is inconsistent with the
42 requirements of subsection a. of this section ; or

43 (7) the outdoor lighting fixture is used on a historic property as
44 that term is defined in section 3 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-3) or
45 any building, site, or area designated historic by a historic
46 preservation commission pursuant to sections 21 through 26 of
47 P.L.1985, c.516 (40:55D-107 et seq.).

S2328 BEACH

1 c. This section shall not be construed to require the State to
2 replace properly functioning outdoor lighting fixtures and shall only
3 apply to the replacement of deficient outdoor lighting fixtures or the
4 installation of outdoor lighting fixtures constructed on or after the
5 effective date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature
6 as this bill).

7 d. The provisions of section 9 of P.L.2009, c.4 (C.52:34-25)
8 shall apply to P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as
9 this bill) if the State, as part of implementing an energy savings
10 improvement program, enters into an energy savings services
11 contract with an energy services company to install, replace, or
12 maintain an outdoor lighting fixture.

13
14 4. This act shall take effect on the first day of the thirteenth
15 month next following the date of enactment.

16
17
18 STATEMENT

19
20 This bill requires the State to install, replace, or maintain outdoor
21 lighting fixtures that comply with design requirements stated in the
22 bill that are intended to minimize wasted light and State funds. The
23 bill does not require the State to replace outdoor lighting fixtures
24 that function properly as of the bill's effective date, but only applies
25 to the replacement of deficient outdoor lighting fixtures.

26 Under the bill, the State is to install, replace, or maintain an
27 outdoor lighting fixture if: an outdoor lighting fixture with a rated
28 output greater than 1,800 lumens is installed or replaced with a
29 cutoff luminaire; the minimum illuminance adequate for the
30 intended purpose is used with consideration given to nationally
31 recognized standards; for fixtures used for lighting a designated
32 highway of the State highway system, the Department of
33 Transportation determines that that purpose of the outdoor lighting
34 fixture cannot be achieved by the installation of reflective road
35 markers, lines, warning or informational signs, or other effective
36 methods; and full consideration has been given to energy
37 conservation, reducing glare, minimizing light pollution, and
38 preserving the natural light environment.

39 Under this bill, the State is not required to install, replace, or
40 maintain an outdoor lighting fixture if: the outdoor lighting fixture
41 is used on a temporary basis because emergency personnel require
42 it; the outdoor lighting fixture is used on a temporary basis for
43 nighttime work; the outdoor lighting fixture is used for a special
44 event or situation; a compelling safety interest exists; the
45 replacement of outdoor lighting fixtures constitutes less than 30
46 percent of an entire outdoor lighting system at a New Jersey Transit

S2328 BEACH

5

1 (NJT) Corporation facility, or an outdoor lighting fixture at a NJT
2 Corporation facility was approved by the New Jersey Historic
3 Preservation Office; a federal law supersedes or is inconsistent with
4 the bill; or the outdoor lighting fixture is used on a historic property
5 or any building, site, or area designated historic by a historic
6 preservation commission.