

ASSEMBLY LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 663

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 1, 1998

The Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 663.

Assembly Bill No. 663 amends section 4 of P.L.1966, c.37 (C.52:17B-5.4) and supplements Title 34 of the Revised Statutes to address distortions in reported crime rates for resort municipalities which result from a failure to include seasonal population data when calculating these rates. Consequently, the per capita crime rate in resort municipalities may appear to be inordinately higher than that in non-resort municipalities with comparable permanent populations.

The bill requires the Attorney General to include a section in the annual Uniform Crime Report that accounts for seasonal visitors in the compilation of uniform crime rates for resort municipalities. This would be done by using the annual mean population of a resort municipality, which is the annualized average of its permanent and seasonal populations. Crime statistics would be provided for both adults and juveniles in these municipalities.

The Department of Labor would be required to estimate the annual mean population of resort municipalities. The department also would be required to calculate the total seasonal populations of these municipalities based on factors it deems appropriate.

This bill was prefiled for introduction in the 1998 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review which has been performed.