

SENATE, No. 233

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
208th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1998 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator JAMES S. CAFIERO

District 1 (Cape May, Atlantic and Cumberland)

SYNOPSIS

Requires total seasonal population of resort municipalities to be included in Uniform Crime Report.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning the effect of seasonal population on crime
2 reporting, amending P.L.1966, c.37 and supplementing Title 34 of
3 the Revised Statutes.

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

7
8 1. Section 4 of P.L.1966, c.37 (C.52:17B-5.4) is amended to read
9 as follows:

10 4. a. Upon receipt of such information the Attorney General shall
11 have such data collated and formulated and shall compile such
12 statistics as he may deem necessary in order to present a proper
13 classification and analysis of the volume and nature of crime and the
14 administration of criminal justice within this State.

15 b. The classification and analysis presented in accordance with
16 subsection a. shall include a section on the per capita crime statistics
17 for a resort municipality as defined in section 3 of P.L. , c. (C.)
18 (now pending before the Legislature as this bill). That section shall
19 contain data based on both the population of the resort municipality
20 and the annual mean population of that municipality as estimated by
21 the Department of Labor pursuant to section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.)
22 (now pending before the Legislature as this bill).

23 (cf: P.L.1966, c.37, s.4)

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25 2. (New section) The Department of Labor shall annually
26 determine which municipalities qualify as resort municipalities and
27 determine and certify the annual mean population of resort
28 municipalities. This information shall be transmitted to the Office of
29 the Attorney General by March 31 following the end of the reporting
30 year for use in the preparation of per capita crime statistics pursuant
31 to section 4 of P.L.1966, c.37 (C.52:17B-5.4). The first determination
32 shall be made as soon as practicable, but no later than one year after
33 the effective date of this act.

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35 3. (New section) As used in this act:

36 "Annual mean population" means for each resort municipality the
37 following:

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$$12P + 3SP$$

39

$$AMP = \frac{\quad}{\quad}$$

40

$$12$$

41 where AMP equals Annual Mean Population

42 P equals Population

43 SP equals Seasonal Population.

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 "Population" means the year-round population of the resort
2 municipality shown in the most recent State population estimates
3 published by the Department of Labor, except that in the year of
4 promulgation of a Federal decennial census, the census figures shall be
5 used.

6 "Resort municipality" means a municipality which, because of its
7 recreational, entertainment or amusement characteristics or facilities
8 or its close proximity to such characteristics or facilities, experiences
9 a total increase during the seasonal period in the number of persons
10 temporarily resident therein of 25 percent or more of its population.

11 "Seasonal population" means the average of the estimated number
12 of persons temporarily resident in the municipality during the three
13 consecutive months when the temporary population is greatest.

14 "Temporarily resident" means the occupying for any period of time
15 during the seasonal period by any person not counted as a resident of
16 the municipality for population purposes of an accommodation in a
17 rented residential unit or vacation home.

18

19 4. (New section) a. The seasonal population of each resort
20 municipality shall be estimated by the Department of Labor by taking
21 into account such factors as it deems advisable and appropriate to
22 determine such estimates.

23 b. The department may call for and obtain any records and
24 assistance of the several departments and divisions of the State and the
25 respective municipalities as it deems necessary or helpful in carrying
26 out the purposes of this act.

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28 5. (New section) The Commissioner of Labor may adopt and
29 promulgate, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"
30 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), such rules and regulations to
31 effectuate the purposes of this act as he shall deem necessary.

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33 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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38 This bill addresses distortions in reported crime rates for resort
39 municipalities which result from a failure to include seasonal
40 population data when calculating these rates. Consequently, the per
41 capita crime rate in resort municipalities may appear to be inordinately
42 higher than that in non-resort municipalities with comparable
43 permanent populations.

44 The bill requires the Attorney General to include a section in the
45 annual Uniform Crime Report that accounts for seasonal visitors in
46 the compilation of uniform crime rates for resort municipalities. This

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1 would be done by using the annual mean population of a resort
2 municipality, which is the annualized average of its permanent and
3 seasonal populations. Crime statistics would be provided for both
4 adults and juveniles in these municipalities.

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