

# ASSEMBLY, No. 857

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER**

**District 28 (Essex)**

**Assemblyman RALPH R. CAPUTO**

**District 28 (Essex)**

**Assemblywoman SHAVONDA E. SUMTER**

**District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblywoman ANNETTE CHAPARRO**

**District 33 (Hudson)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman Giblin**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires minimum level of police staffing based on municipal population and violent crime rate.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/26/2022)**

1 AN ACT concerning police staffing levels and supplementing Title  
2 40A of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. Any municipality in this State with a population exceeding  
8 60,000 according to the latest federal decennial census and which  
9 has a violent crime rate exceeding 10.0 per 1,000 residents  
10 according to the most recently issued Uniform Crime Report  
11 published by the Department of Law and Public Safety shall  
12 maintain a full-time police department or force comprised of at least  
13 four police officers per 1,000 residents.

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15 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the sixth month  
16 following enactment.

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#### STATEMENT

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21 This bill would require municipalities in this State with a  
22 population of more than 60,000 people and a violent crime rate  
23 exceeding 10.0 per 1,000 residents to maintain a full-time police  
24 department or force comprised of at least four police officers per  
25 1,000 residents.

26

27 Under the bill, the violent crime rate would be based on that  
28 which is reported in the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) published by  
29 the Department of Law and Public Safety. In the UCR, violent  
30 crimes include murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

31

32 According to the sponsor, the escalating number of murders  
33 being committed in this State's urban communities is becoming a  
34 public health crisis. An appropriate response to this crisis is to  
ensure that urban municipalities with high crime rates have  
sufficient police officers to maintain the public safety.