

[Second Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 1107

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANNETTE CHAPARRO

District 33 (Hudson)

Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY

District 7 (Burlington)

Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI

District 33 (Hudson)

Senator NELLIE POU

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Senator JAMES BEACH

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman McKnight, Assemblyman Rooney, Senators Madden and Singleton

SYNOPSIS

Directs Chief Technology Officer to conduct study on impacts of redacting handwritten signatures published on State websites; allows for protocols for such redactions to be established by rules and regulations.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended by the Senate on December 21, 2023.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/8/2024)

1 AN ACT concerning State agencies and redaction of certain
 2 signatures and supplementing P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
 3 seq.).
 4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
 6 *of New Jersey:*
 7

8 ¹**1.a.** Notwithstanding any law, rule, regulation, or order to the
 9 contrary, a State agency shall redact a person's handwritten
 10 signature on any document published on the State agency's Internet
 11 website, pursuant to the provisions of the "Administrative
 12 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), on or after
 13 the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
 14 Legislature as this bill).

15 b. A State agency shall archive any document published on a
 16 State agency's Internet website prior to the effective date of P.L. ,
 17 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) that
 18 displays a person's handwritten signature and the document may be
 19 republished on the State agency's Internet website if the State
 20 agency redacts the person's handwritten signature.

21 c. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to limit public
 22 access, pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.), commonly
 23 known as the open public records act, to any document archived
 24 pursuant to subsection b. of this section.**1**¹
 25

26 ²**1. a.** The Chief Technology Officer, in consultation with
 27 the Office of Information Privacy in the Department of Community
 28 Affairs, shall conduct a study on the impact of redacting a person's
 29 handwritten signature on any document published on the Internet
 30 websites of State agencies, and shall prepare and submit a written
 31 report, within one year of the effective date of this act, P.L. ,
 32 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), to the
 33 Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164
 34 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature, the chairperson of the Assembly
 35 Science, Innovation and Technology Committee, and the
 36 chairperson of the Senate Commerce Committee, or their successor
 37 committees, which shall include, but not be limited to, the
 38 following:

39 (1) the number of documents across State agency internet
 40 websites containing handwritten signatures;

41 (2) the resources necessary for State agencies to archive any
 42 document published on the agency's internet website prior to the

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate floor amendments adopted October 17, 2022.

²Senate floor amendments adopted December 21, 2023.

- 1 effective date of this act that display a person's handwritten
2 signature;
- 3 (3) the resources necessary to republish documents containing a
4 handwritten signature on State agencies' Internet websites if the
5 State agencies redact the person's handwritten signature;
- 6 (4) the implications of these findings on long-term plans for
7 document retention and data security; and
- 8 (5) whether further legislation or regulation is necessary to
9 establish protocols by which State agencies may redact a person's
10 handwritten signature on any documents published on the State
11 agencies' Internet websites.
- 12 b. Upon concluding a study and issuing a report to the
13 Governor and the Legislature pursuant to this act, the Office of
14 Information Privacy may, through regulation adopted pursuant to
15 the "Administrative Procedure Act", P.L. 1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1
16 et seq.), establish protocols by which a required State agency shall
17 redact a person's handwritten signature on any documents published
18 on the State agency's Internet website.²
- 19
- 20 2. This act shall take effect ¹**[immediately]** on the ²**[180th]**
21 90th² day following the date of enactment¹.