

ASSEMBLY, No. 4476

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 15, 2022

Sponsored by:

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District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

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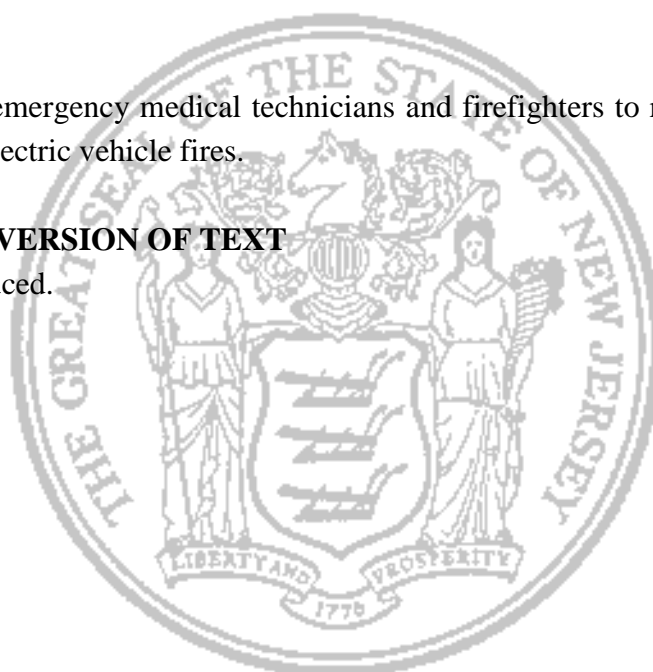
Assemblyman Guardian, Assemblywoman Gove, Assemblymen Peterson, Wirths, Auth, Assemblywoman DeFuccio, Assemblyman Rumpf, Assemblywomen McKnight, Swift, Assemblyman Rooney, Assemblywoman Piperno, Assemblymen Simonsen, McClellan, Assemblywoman N.Munoz, Assemblymen Sauickie, Stanley, Assemblywomen Reynolds-Jackson, Carter, Flynn, Matsikoudis and Assemblyman Moriarty

SYNOPSIS

Requires emergency medical technicians and firefighters to receive training concerning electric vehicle fires.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/27/2022)

1 AN ACT concerning emergency medical technician and firefighter
2 training and supplementing Titles 52 and 26 of the Revised
3 Statutes.

4

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

7

8 1. a. The Division of Fire Safety in the Department of
9 Community Affairs, in consultation with the New Jersey Fire and
10 Emergency Medical Services Institute, shall adopt a firefighter
11 training course regarding the risks associated with electric vehicles
12 and how to safely and effectively manage electric vehicle fires.

13 b. Each person, volunteer or paid, who is engaged in fire
14 suppression, firefighting, or fire rescue before the effective date of
15 this act shall, within 36 months of the effective date of this act,
16 satisfactorily complete the training course developed under
17 subsection a. of this section.

18 c. The Commissioner of Community Affairs shall adopt rules
19 and regulations, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"
20 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to effectuate the purposes of
21 this act.

22

23 2. a. The Commissioner of Health, in consultation with the
24 Commissioner of Human Services, the New Jersey Fire and
25 Emergency Medical Services Institute, and the New Jersey State
26 First Aid Council, shall adopt a training course for emergency
27 medical technicians regarding the risks associated with electric
28 vehicles and how to safely and effectively perform their duties
29 when they are called to the scene of electric vehicle fires.

30 b. Prior to certification by the Department of Health, each
31 emergency medical technician trained in basic life support as
32 defined in section 1 of P.L.1985, c.351 (C.26:2K-21) shall be
33 required to satisfactorily complete the training developed under
34 subsection a. of this section. Every emergency medical technician
35 certified prior to the effective date of this act shall, within 36
36 months of the effective date of this act, satisfactorily complete the
37 training course.

38 c. The Commissioner of Health shall adopt rules and
39 regulations, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"
40 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to effectuate the purposes of
41 this act.

42

43 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the sixth month
44 next following enactment but the Division of Fire Safety and the
45 Commissioner of Health may take any anticipatory administrative
46 action necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

STATEMENT

This bill requires emergency medical technicians and firefighters within the State to be trained on the risks associated with electric vehicles and in the safe and effective management of electric vehicle fires.

Under this bill, the Division of Fire Safety, in consultation with the New Jersey Fire and Emergency Medical Services Institute, will adopt a training course for firefighters. The Commissioner of Health, in consultation with the Commissioner of Human Services, the New Jersey Fire and Emergency Medical Services Institute, and the New Jersey State First Aid Council, will adopt a training course for emergency medical technicians.

For the last 20 years, there has been increased interest in and use of electric vehicles. While the risk of an electric vehicle fire is low, managing an electric vehicle fire requires specialized training since a lithium-ion battery can burn hotter and for a longer period of time than a gasoline engine.