

ASSEMBLY, No. 4979

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 15, 2022

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOHN DIMAIO

District 23 (Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren)

Assemblywoman MICHELE MATSIKOUDIS

District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Rooney

SYNOPSIS

Requires MVC to issue blue envelopes that hold documents required to operate motor vehicle to persons diagnosed with autism.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/18/2023)

1 AN ACT concerning protections for drivers with certain medical
2 conditions and supplementing Title 39 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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7 1. a. The Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor
8 Vehicle Commission, in consultation with the Commissioner of
9 Human Services, the Superintendent of State Police, and at least
10 one organization that advocates on behalf of persons who have been
11 diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, shall design and make
12 available blue envelopes that may be utilized by a person who has
13 been diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder to hold documents
14 required for the operation of a motor vehicle.

15 b. The blue envelopes developed pursuant to subsection a. of
16 this section shall:

17 (1) be of a color shade easily recognizable to law enforcement
18 officers;

19 (2) be capable of holding a person's driver's license, motor
20 vehicle registration certificate, and insurance identification card;

21 (3) provide written information on the outside of the envelope
22 identifying the envelope holder as a person who has been diagnosed
23 with autism spectrum disorder; and

24 (4) provide written guidance to assist law enforcement officers
25 in effectively communicating with a person who has been diagnosed
26 with an autism spectrum disorder.

27 c. The chief administrator shall, in consultation with the
28 commissioner, establish the documentation required to be produced
29 by a person who has been diagnosed with an autism spectrum
30 disorder, or by the parent, guardian, or caregiver of the person, in
31 order to obtain the blue envelope issued pursuant to subsection a. of
32 this section.

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34 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the twelfth
35 month after enactment, but the Chief Administrator of the New
36 Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission may take any anticipatory action
37 in advance as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this
38 act.

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STATEMENT

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43 This bill requires the Chief Administrator of the New Jersey
44 Motor Vehicle Commission, in consultation with the Commissioner
45 of Human Services, the Superintendent of State Police, and at least
46 one organization that advocates on behalf of persons who have been
47 diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder, to design and make
48 available blue envelopes that may be utilized by a person who has

1 been diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder to hold documents
2 required for the operation of a motor vehicle.

3 Under the bill, the blue envelopes are required to: (1) be of a
4 color shade easily recognizable to law enforcement officers; (2) be
5 capable of holding a person's driver's license, motor vehicle
6 registration certificate, and insurance identification card; (3)
7 provide written information on the outside of the envelope
8 identifying the envelope holder as a person who has been diagnosed
9 with an autism spectrum disorder; and (4) provide written guidance
10 to assist law enforcement officers in effectively communicating
11 with a person who has been diagnosed with an autism spectrum
12 disorder.

13 The bill also requires that the chief administrator, in consultation
14 with the commissioner, establish the documentation required to be
15 produced by a person who has been diagnosed with an autism
16 spectrum disorder, or by the parent, guardian, or caregiver of the
17 person, in order to obtain a blue envelope.

18 The bill is based on a 2020 Connecticut statute.