

# SENATE, No. 148

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires NJT to expand or modify routes and hours of certain transportation services and to solicit input from individuals diagnosed with autism.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning certain New Jersey Transit Corporation  
2 transportation services and supplementing Title 27 of the  
3 Revised Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. Within one year of the effective date of P.L. ,  
9 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), the New  
10 Jersey Transit Corporation shall expand or modify the routes and  
11 hours of motorbus regular route service, paratransit service, and rail  
12 passenger service, as those terms are defined pursuant to section 3  
13 of P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-3), including light rail service,  
14 operated by or under contract to the corporation to accommodate  
15 the mobility needs of individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum  
16 disorder. Prior to expanding or modifying the routes and hours of  
17 these services as required by this subsection, the corporation shall  
18 solicit and receive advice, input, and guidance for the expansion or  
19 modification from individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum  
20 disorder and their advocates.

21 b. The corporation shall solicit and receive advice, input, and  
22 guidance from individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder  
23 and their advocates on an annual basis to determine whether the  
24 routes and hours of motorbus regular route service, paratransit  
25 service, and rail passenger service, as those terms are defined  
26 pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-3), including light  
27 rail service, operated by or under contract to the corporation  
28 adequately accommodates the mobility needs of individuals  
29 diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder and whether further  
30 expansion or modification of the routes and hours are necessary.

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32 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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35 STATEMENT

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37 This bill requires the New Jersey Transit Corporation  
38 (corporation) to expand or modify the routes and hours of motorbus  
39 regular route service, paratransit service, and rail passenger service,  
40 including light rail service, to accommodate the mobility needs of  
41 individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder within one  
42 year of the effective date of the bill. The corporation is required to  
43 solicit and receive advice, input, and guidance from individuals  
44 diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder and their advocates before  
45 the corporation expands or modifies the routes and hours of service.

46 The bill also requires the corporation to solicit and receive, on an  
47 annual basis, advice, input, and guidance from individuals  
48 diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder and their advocates. The

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1 advice, input, and guidance is to help the corporation determine  
2 whether the routes and hours of motorbus regular route service,  
3 paratransit service, and rail passenger service, including light rail  
4 service, adequately accommodates the mobility needs of individuals  
5 diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder and whether further  
6 expansion or modification of the routes and hours of these services  
7 are necessary.