

SENATE, No. 947

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 31, 2022

Sponsored by:

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Stanfield

SYNOPSIS

Provides televisions in State buildings shall display closed captioning for programming.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/24/2022)

1 AN ACT providing that televisions in State buildings shall display
2 closed captioning for programming and supplementing Title 52 of
3 the 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. Every television that is located in any portion of a building
9 owned or leased by the State for the use of any State agency that is
10 available for viewing by members of the public or public employees
11 shall continuously display closed captioning for all programming for
12 which closed captioning is available.

13 As used in this section:

14 “Closed captioning” means the visual display of written words on
15 a television screen of the audio portion of video programming; and

16 “State agency” means any of the principal departments in the
17 Executive Branch of the State Government, and any division, board,
18 bureau, office, commission or other instrumentality within or created
19 by such department, and, to the extent consistent with law, any
20 interstate agency to which New Jersey is a party and any independent
21 State authority, commission, instrumentality, or agency.

22 The provisions of this section shall not apply to any television
23 manufactured prior to the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.)
24 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) that cannot accommodate
25 closed captioning.

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27 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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32 The purpose of this bill is to enable hearing-impaired persons to
33 more easily understand television programs in State buildings. The
34 bill provides that every television that is located in any portion of a
35 building owned or leased by the State that is available for viewing by
36 members of the public or public employees shall display closed
37 captioning for all programming for which closed captioning is
38 available. Under the bill, “closed captioning” is the visual display of
39 written words on a television screen of the audio portion of video
40 programming.

41 The bill will not apply to any television manufactured before the
42 bill’s effective date that cannot accommodate closed captioning.