

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 2885

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
220th LEGISLATURE

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Sponsored by:

Senator PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.

District 18 (Middlesex)

Senator NIA H. GILL

District 34 (Essex and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes “New Jersey Target Zero Commission.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended by the Senate on June 26, 2023.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/29/2022)

1 AN ACT establishing the “New Jersey ¹**[Vision Zero Task Force]**
 2 Target Zero Commission¹” and supplementing Title 27 of the
 3 Revised Statutes.

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

7
 8 1. a. There is established in, but not of, the Department of
 9 Transportation, the “New Jersey ¹**[Vision Zero Task Force]** Target
 10 Zero Commission¹.”

11 b. The ¹**[task force]** commission¹ shall consist of ¹**[21]** 13¹
 12 members, as follows:

13 (1) the Commissioner of Transportation, ex officio, or the
 14 commissioner’s designee;

15 (2) the Superintendent of State Police, ex officio, or the
 16 superintendent’s designee;

17 (3) the Commissioner of Health, ex officio, or the
 18 commissioner’s designee;

19 (4) the Commissioner of Community Affairs, ex officio, or the
 20 commissioner’s designee;

21 (5) the Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle
 22 Commission, ex officio, or the chief administrator’s designee;

23 (6) ¹the Commissioner of Human Services, ex officio, or the
 24 commissioner’s designee;

25 (7) the Director of Highway Traffic Safety, ex officio, or the
 26 director’s designee;

27 (8)¹ the Director of the Office of Environmental Justice in the
 28 Department of Environmental Protection, ex officio, or the
 29 director’s designee;

30 ¹**[(7)]** (9)¹ the Executive Director of the New Jersey Transit
 31 Corporation, ex officio, or the executive director’s designee;

32 ¹(10) the Executive Director of the New Jersey Turnpike
 33 Authority, ex officio, or the executive director’s designee;

34 (11) the Executive Director of the Delaware Valley Regional
 35 Planning Commission , ex officio, or the executive director’s
 36 designee;¹

37 ¹**[(8)]** (12)¹ the Executive Director of the North Jersey
 38 Transportation Planning Authority, ex officio, or the executive
 39 director’s designee; ¹and¹

40 ¹**[(9)]** (13)¹ the Executive Director of the South Jersey
 41 Transportation Planning Organization, ex officio, or the executive
 42 director’s designee¹ **[;**

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 June 26, 2023.

- 1 (10) a New Jersey resident appointed by the Executive Director
2 of the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission;
- 3 (11) a representative of the Department of Transportation with
4 expertise in bicycle and pedestrian programs, who shall be
5 designated by the Commissioner of Transportation;
- 6 (12) two members of the Senate, one of whom shall be
7 appointed by the Senate President and one of whom shall be
8 appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate, which members
9 shall not be of the same political party;
- 10 (13) two members of the General Assembly, one of whom shall
11 be appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly and one of
12 whom shall be appointed by the Minority Leader of the General
13 Assembly, which members shall not be of the same political party;
14 and
- 15 (14) six public members appointed by the Governor, of which
16 one or more of the following shall be represented: a group
17 representing vulnerable road users; a New Jersey resident that was
18 injured or lost a family member in a traffic crash; a community that
19 has been burdened by environmental justice issues; a person
20 representing people with mobility, visual, or cognitive impairments;
21 a New Jersey Transit Corporation bus rider; a person representing
22 people between the ages of 16 and 26 who is interested and active
23 in creating safer roadways for vulnerable road users; a person
24 representing people over the age of 65 who is interested and active
25 in creating safer roadways for vulnerable road users¹.
- 26 ¹**[c.** Each public member of the task force shall serve for a term
27 of three years, except that, of the members first appointed, two
28 members shall serve for an initial term of one year, two members
29 shall serve for an initial term of two years, and two members shall
30 serve for an initial term of three years. Each member shall serve for
31 the term of appointment until the member's successor is appointed.
32 A public member who has completed a term of membership may be
33 reappointed to the task force. Vacancies in the task force shall be
34 filled in the same manner as the original appointments were
35 made.]¹
- 36 ¹**[d.] c.**¹ The ¹**[members of the task force shall be appointed**
37 **within 60 days after the effective date of this act, and the task**
38 **force] commission**¹ shall hold its initial ¹**[organizational]**¹ meeting
39 as soon as practicable, but no later than ¹**[30] 60**¹ days after the
40 ¹**[appointment of a majority of its members] effective date of**
41 **P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)**¹.
42 The chairperson of the ¹**[task force] commission**¹ shall be
43 ¹**[selected by a majority of the membership of the task force] the**
44 **Commissioner of Transportation**¹, and the ¹**[task force]**
45 **commission**¹ shall meet no less than twice per year at such places
46 and times as the chairperson may designate. ¹**The commission shall**
47 **hold a minimum of two annual public hearings.**¹ The chairperson

1 may appoint a secretary who need not be a member of the ¹**[task**
2 **force]** commission¹.

3 ¹**[e.** Members of the task force shall serve without
4 compensation, but may be reimbursed for travel and other necessary
5 expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, within the
6 limits of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the task
7 force for its purposes] **d.** The commission shall meet with key
8 stakeholders, advocates, and experts, and shall consult with policy
9 experts in the fields of bicycle and pedestrian safety, mobility,
10 visual or cognitive impairments, and motor vehicle crashes for
11 expertise and input¹.

12 ¹**[f.] e.**¹ The Department of Transportation shall provide
13 professional, stenographic, and clerical staff to the ¹**[task force]**
14 commission¹, as may be necessary for the ¹**[task force]**
15 commission¹ to carry out its duties. The ¹**[task force]** commission¹
16 shall also be entitled to call upon the services of any State, county,
17 or municipal department, board, commission, or agency, as may be
18 available to it for its purposes.

19

20 2. a. For the purposes of this section:

21 “Active transportation” means ¹**[mobility options powered**
22 **primarily by human energy, including]**¹ pedestrian mobility, such
23 as walking and running ¹**[;** mobility assistive devices, such as
24 wheelchairs, bicycles, and cycles; and small personal devices, such
25 as skateboards and foot scooters, and] individual use of personal
26 conveyances for mobility powered by human effort or electric
27 motors, and personal conveyances¹ that consider and address
28 accommodations pursuant to the “Americans with Disabilities Act
29 of 1990” (42 U.S.C. s.12101 et seq.).

30 ¹“Bicycle” means the same as the term is defined in section 2 of
31 P.L.1975, c.328 (C.39:4-14.5).

32 “Pedestrian” shall include, but not be limited to: a pedestrian as
33 defined in R.S.39:1-1; a person in a wheelchair or motorized
34 wheelchair as defined in R.S.39:1-1; and a person employed by or
35 who contracts with any public utility company in this State, a
36 property maintenance worker, or any other person who is permitted
37 by law to be upon the roadway and outside a motor vehicle for work
38 or recreation and is upon a roadway and outside a motor vehicle for
39 work or recreation.

40 “Personal conveyance” shall include:

41 (1) a bicycle as defined in this section;

42 (2) a low-speed electric bicycle as defined in R.S.39:1-1;

43 (3) a low-speed electric scooter as defined in R.S.39:1-1;

44 (4) a manual wheelchair;

- 1 (5) a motorized wheelchair as defined in R.S.39:1-1, or similar
2 mobility assisting devices used by persons with physical
3 disabilities, or by persons whose ambulatory mobility has been
4 impaired by age or illness;
5 (6) an electric personal assistive mobility device as defined in
6 section 1 of P.L.2001, c.430 (C.39:4-14.10);
7 (7) a motorized scooter as defined in R.S.39:1-1;
8 (8) a skateboard;
9 (9) a motorized skateboard as defined in R.S.39:1-1;
10 (10) roller skates as defined in section 1 of P.L.1997, c.411
11 (C.39:4-10.5); and
12 (11) any other means used by a person for transportation.¹

13 “Safe system approach” means evaluating traffic safety and
14 designing a transportation system with the goal of eliminating fatal
15 and serious injuries for all road users by acknowledging that: traffic
16 deaths and serious injuries are unacceptable, humans make
17 mistakes, humans are vulnerable, responsibility is shared, safety is
18 proactive, and redundancy is crucial.

19 ¹“Vision zero strategies” means actionable strategies using the
20 safe system approach and include, but are not limited to, prioritizing
21 roadway design, focusing on speed management, ensuring
22 enforcement is equitable, and utilizing impactful education
23 strategies.】

24 “Target zero strategies” means actionable strategies using the
25 safe system approach and include, but are not limited to: (1)
26 prioritizing roadway design and design of sidewalks; crosswalks;
27 roadway shoulders; personal conveyance parking; access to public
28 transit, schools, and parks; and intersections and corridors with
29 paths, trails, and multiuse greenways; (2) focusing on speed
30 management; (3) ensuring enforcement is equitable; and (4)
31 utilizing impactful education strategies and inclusive community
32 engagement.¹

33 b. The purpose and duties of the ¹【task force】 commission¹
34 shall be to study, examine, and review all aspects of traffic safety
35 with a particular focus on access, equity, and mobility for all road
36 users using the safe system approach and to advise the Governor,
37 the Legislature, and the Department of Transportation regarding
38 policies, programs, research, and priorities to help achieve the goal
39 of eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries. To fulfill this
40 purpose and these duties, the ¹【task force】 commission¹ shall:

41 (1) develop a comprehensive and coordinated action plan to help
42 achieve the goal of eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries
43 on all public roadways in the State ¹by 2040¹ through engineering,
44 education, and enforcement systems that analyze physical
45 transportation designs with a focus on the equitable treatment of all
46 transportation users;

1 (2) identify short-term and long-term data-driven strategies with
2 measurable goals and target dates to reduce traffic fatalities and
3 serious injuries with the goal of eliminating all traffic fatalities and
4 serious injuries by ¹~~2035~~ 2040¹;

5 (3) ¹adopt the action plan no later than the first day of the 12th
6 month following the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.)
7 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), except that before
8 adopting the action plan, the commission shall host a public hearing
9 to receive public feedback concerning the proposed action plan,
10 which proposed action plan shall be published on the commission's
11 Internet website no less than 72 hours before the public hearing;

12 (4)¹ promote effective and transparent collection of traffic safety
13 data and dissemination of such data via a publicly accessible data
14 portal that includes, but is not limited to, the most dangerous
15 intersections in the State, traffic crash data with information on
16 non-fatal injuries and demographic data, and a high injury network
17 that indicates the roadways, in the State, with the highest injury
18 rates;

19 ¹~~(4)~~ (5)¹ encourage the elimination of road hazards by
20 advancing active transportation and mass transit as safe and viable
21 forms of transportation throughout the State for persons of all ages
22 and abilities;

23 ¹~~(5)~~ (6)¹ provide recommendations for changes to State,
24 county, and municipal law to achieve the goal of eliminating all
25 traffic fatalities and serious injuries by ¹~~2035~~ 2040¹;

26 ¹~~(6)~~ (7)¹ develop ¹~~an~~ the¹ action plan to implement and
27 promote the safe system approach, ¹~~vision~~ target¹ zero strategies,
28 and evidenced-based safety countermeasures to help achieve the
29 goal of eliminating traffic fatalities and severe injuries among all
30 road users ¹by 2040¹;

31 ¹~~(7)~~ (8)¹ create and maintain an interactive Internet website to
32 provide information about the ¹~~task force~~ commission¹,
33 including: the membership of the ¹~~task force~~ commission¹; the
34 ¹~~task force's~~ commission's¹ plans, progress reports, meeting
35 notices, agendas, and minutes; educational materials about
36 ¹~~vision~~ target¹ zero; a link to the safety portal required pursuant
37 to paragraph ¹~~(3)~~ (4)¹ of this subsection; and any other
38 information the ¹~~task force~~ commission¹ deems necessary;

39 ¹~~(8)~~ (9)¹ serve as an advisor to the Department of
40 Transportation and other State agencies and transportation
41 authorities with regard to roadway planning and transportation
42 infrastructure planning;

43 ¹~~(9)~~ (10)¹ provide advice and assistance to county and
44 municipal governments to develop their own ¹~~vision~~ target¹ zero
45 plans;

1 ¹[(10) review and provide feedback on an annual basis to the
2 Department of Transportation, the New Jersey Turnpike Authority,
3 and the South Jersey Transportation Authority on their respective
4 capital plans before these entities provide testimony at their
5 respective public budget hearings before the Legislature. The
6 feedback shall be made publicly available on the website of the task
7 force before the entities provide such testimony;]¹ and

8 (11) report annually to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2
9 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature on the
10 findings and activities of the ¹[task force] commission¹, including
11 the number of road traffic fatalities and serious injuries and the
12 review of the implementation of the action plans. The ¹[task force]
13 commission¹ shall submit the report before the third Sunday in
14 November of each year, which is World Day of Remembrance for
15 Road Traffic Victims.

16

17 ¹3. The Department of Transportation shall promulgate such
18 rules and regulations, pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure
19 Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as are necessary to
20 effectuate the provisions of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
21 the Legislature as this bill).¹

22

23 ¹[3.] 4.¹ This act shall take effect immediately.