

SENATE, No. 3572

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 9, 2023

Sponsored by:
Senator NELLIE POU
District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Bars certain limitations on number of consumer contract claims that are allowed to proceed at same time.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning certain claims filed against consumer contracts
2 and supplementing P.L.1980, c.125 (C.56:12-1 et seq.)
3

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

7 1. A consumer contract shall not limit the number of claims
8 made against the contract that are allowed to proceed at the same time
9 in an adjudication if:

10 a. the claims are similar; and

11 b. the claimants are represented by the same legal counsel or
12 different legal counsel coordinating the adjudication of the
13 claims.

14 As used in this section, “adjudication” means a legal proceeding,
15 including, but not limited to, litigation and alternative dispute
16 resolution, including arbitration and mediation, to resolve a legal
17 dispute.
18

19 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to
20 consumer contracts agreed to on or after the date of enactment.
21

22

23 STATEMENT
24

25 This bill prohibits a consumer contract from limiting the number
26 of claims made against the contract that are allowed to proceed at the
27 same time in an adjudication if 1) the claims are similar and 2) the
28 claimants are represented by the same legal counsel or different legal
29 counsel coordinating the adjudication of the claims. Under the bill,
30 “adjudication” means a legal proceeding, including, but not limited
31 to, litigation and alternative dispute resolution, including arbitration
32 and mediation, to resolve a legal dispute.

33 This bill is intended to protect a consumer’s right to an expeditious
34 adjudication. Specifically, the bill intends to preserve the speed of
35 the adjudication for a consumer who hires legal counsel who is
36 working with, or who may work with, multiple consumers on similar
37 claims that arose from the same contract or who is coordinating the
38 adjudication of the claims with other legal counsel working with
39 consumers on similar claims from the contract.