

[Second Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 2607**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**221st LEGISLATURE**

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

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Assemblywoman Speight, Senators Holzapfel, Space, A.M.Bucco,  
Assemblyman Bailey, Assemblywoman Haider, Assemblyman Sampson,  
Assemblywomen McCann Stamato and Sumter**

**SYNOPSIS**

Authorizes taxicabs, limousines, and transportation network companies to provide paratransit services for two-year period.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As amended on September 19, 2024 by the General Assembly pursuant to the Governor's recommendations.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/26/2024)

1 AN ACT concerning paratransit services <sup>1</sup>and amending various parts of  
2 the statutory law<sup>1</sup>.

3

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

6

7 <sup>1</sup>1. Section 3 of P.L.2020, c.114 (C.27:25-37) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 3. For the purposes of P.L.2020, c.114 (C.27:25-35 et seq.):

10 "Community organization" means an organization that provides  
11 programs and services to persons with disabilities.

12 "Corporation" means the New Jersey Transit Corporation.

13 "Corporation paratransit service" means the paratransit service  
14 that is managed, administered, or provided directly through the New  
15 Jersey Transit Corporation's operating budget, as a part of the  
16 Access Link program or any successor program to meet the  
17 requirements of the "Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990" (42  
18 U.S.C. s.12101 et seq.), and does not include services directly  
19 provided by county transit agencies.

20 "County transit agency" means a transportation service organized  
21 under or in conjunction with a county government to provide trips  
22 to senior citizens and residents with disabilities under the "Senior  
23 Citizen and Disabled Resident Transportation Assistance Act,"  
24 P.L.1983, c.578 (C.27:25-25 et seq.).

25 "Department" means, unless another meaning clearly applies, the  
26 Department of Human Services.

27 "Paratransit provider" means any organization or entity that  
28 provides paratransit services, including State and local transit  
29 agencies, directly or through contract service, and community  
30 organizations that provide transportation trips, either directly or  
31 through a third party, funded by the Department of Human Services  
32 or the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services within the  
33 Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

34 "Paratransit service" means and includes any transportation  
35 service other than fixed route transportation service<sup>1</sup>, except that  
36 "paratransit service" does not include private or charter services  
37 provided by taxicabs, limousines, or transportation network  
38 companies<sup>1</sup>.

39 (cf: P.L.2020, c.114, s.3)<sup>1</sup>

40

41 <sup>1</sup>2. Section 3 of P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-3) is amended to read  
42 as follows:

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:

<sup>1</sup>Senate SBA committee amendments adopted June 24, 2024.

<sup>2</sup>Assembly amendments adopted in accordance with Governor's recommendations September 19, 2024.

- 1       3. As used in **【this act】** P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-1 et seq.):
- 2       a. "Corporation" means the New Jersey Transit Corporation.
- 3       b. "Motorbus regular route service" means and includes the
- 4 operation of any motorbus or motorbuses on streets, public
- 5 highways or other facilities, over a fixed route and between fixed
- 6 termini on a regular schedule for the purpose of carrying passengers
- 7 for hire or otherwise, in this State or between points in this State
- 8 and points in other states.
- 9       c. "Capital equipment and facilities" means and includes, in
- 10 connection with public transportation service, passenger stations,
- 11 shelters and terminals, automobile parking facilities, ramps, track
- 12 connections, signal systems, power systems, information and
- 13 communication systems, roadbeds, transit lanes or rights of way,
- 14 equipment storage and servicing facilities, bridges, grade crossings,
- 15 rail cars, locomotives, ferries and ferry facilities, including capital
- 16 projects for ferry terminals, approach roadways, pedestrian
- 17 accommodations, parking, docks, ramps and other necessary land-
- 18 side improvements, motorbus and other motor vehicles,
- 19 maintenance and garage facilities, revenue handling equipment and
- 20 any other equipment, facility or property useful for or related to the
- 21 provision of public transportation service.
- 22       d. "Paratransit services" means and includes any transportation
- 23 service【,】 other than motorbus regular route service **【and charter**
- 24 **services, including, but not limited to, dial-a-ride, nonregular route,**
- 25 **jitney or community minibus, and shared-ride services such as**
- 26 **vanpools, limousines or taxicabs which are regularly available to**
- 27 **the public. Paratransit services shall not include limousine or**
- 28 **taxicab service reserved for the private and exclusive use of**
- 29 **individual passengers】.**
- 30       e. "Public transportation or public transportation service"
- 31 means rail passenger service, motorbus regular route service,
- 32 paratransit service, motorbus charter service, and ferry passenger
- 33 service.
- 34       f. "Motorbus charter service" means and includes subscription,
- 35 tour, other special motorbus services or school bus services or
- 36 charter services as set forth in section 7 of P.L.1979, c.150
- 37 (C.27:25-7).
- 38       g. "Rail passenger service" means and includes the operations
- 39 of a railroad, subway, street, traction or electric railway for the
- 40 purpose of carrying passengers in this State or between points in
- 41 this State and points in other states.
- 42       h. "Ferry passenger service" means any service which involves
- 43 the carriage of persons for compensation or hire by waterborne craft
- 44 in this State or between points in this State and points in other
- 45 states.
- 46 (cf: P.L.2005, c.91, s.1)】<sup>1</sup>

1       <sup>1</sup>Section 3 of P.L.1991, c.252 (C.27:25A-3) is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       3. As used in this act:

4       "Air passenger service" means any service which involves the  
5 carriage of persons for compensation or hire by aircraft.

6       "Atlantic City Expressway" means the expressway project known  
7 as the Atlantic City Expressway constructed by the New Jersey  
8 Expressway Authority pursuant to section 40 of P.L.1962, c.10  
9 (C.27:12C-40).

10       "Atlantic City International Airport" means the airport  
11 authorized by section 24 of this act.

12       "Atlantic County Transportation Authority" means the county  
13 transportation authority authorized pursuant to P.L.1980, c.44  
14 (C.40:35B-1 et seq.).

15       "Authority" means the South Jersey Transportation Authority  
16 created by section 4 of this act.

17       "Bond" means any bond or note issued by the authority pursuant  
18 to the provisions of this act or issued by or for an original authority  
19 or any predecessor authority thereof, as the case may be.

20       "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Transportation.

21       "Construction" or "construct" means the planning, designing,  
22 construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, replacement, repair,  
23 extension, enlargement, improvement and betterment of expressway  
24 projects and transportation projects, and includes the demolition,  
25 clearance and removal of buildings or structures on land acquired,  
26 held, leased or used for those projects.

27       "Cost" means all or any part of the expenses incurred in  
28 connection with the acquisition, construction and maintenance of  
29 any real property, lands, structures, real or personal property rights,  
30 rights-of-way, franchises, easements, and interests acquired or used  
31 for a project; any financing charges and reserves for the payment of  
32 principal and interest on bonds or notes; the expenses of  
33 engineering, appraisal, architectural, accounting, financial and legal  
34 services; and other expenses as may be necessary or incident to the  
35 acquisition, construction and maintenance of a project, the  
36 financing thereof and the placing of the project into operation.

37       "County" means a county in South Jersey.

38       "Department" means the Department of Transportation.

39       "Economic development facility" means any area, place, building  
40 or other improvement or structure related to, connected with, or in  
41 the vicinity of, a transportation project which may serve the users of  
42 that project or assist in, enhance or stimulate its operation or  
43 development.

44       "Expressway project" means the acquisition, construction and  
45 maintenance of the Atlantic City Expressway as transferred to the  
46 authority pursuant to this act and of any express highway, super  
47 highway or motorway at the locations and between the termini as  
48 may hereafter be established by law and acquired or to be acquired

1 or constructed or to be constructed under the provisions of this act  
2 by the authority, over which abutters have no easements or rights of  
3 light, air or direct access by reason of the fact that their properties  
4 abut thereon, and shall include but not be limited to all bridges,  
5 parking facilities, tunnels, overpasses, underpasses, interchanges,  
6 traffic circles, grade separations, entrance plazas, approaches, toll  
7 houses, service areas, stations and facilities, communications  
8 facilities, administration, storage and other buildings, and other  
9 structures related to the use of the express highway, superhighway  
10 or motorway, intersecting highways and bridges and feeder roads  
11 which the authority may deem necessary or desirable for the  
12 operation of the project, together with all property rights, easements  
13 and interests which may be acquired by the authority for the  
14 construction or the operation of the project, and includes any  
15 planning necessary for the execution of any expressway project.

16 "Feeder road" means any road which in the determination of the  
17 authority is necessary to create or facilitate access to a project and  
18 is not more than five miles in length from the point of its  
19 connection with the project.

20 "Land and improvements" means any area or lands, any interest,  
21 right or title in land, including but not limited to, any reversionary  
22 right, and any real or personal property, structure, facility, building  
23 or equipment.

24 "Marine passenger service" means any service which involves  
25 the carriage of persons for compensation or hire by waterborne  
26 craft.

27 "Motorbus charter service" means subscription, tour and other  
28 special motorbus services.

29 "Motorbus regular route service" means the operation of any  
30 motorbus or motorbuses on streets, public highways or other  
31 facilities, over a fixed route and between fixed termini on a regular  
32 schedule for the purpose of carrying passengers, for hire or  
33 otherwise, within South Jersey or between points within South  
34 Jersey and points without South Jersey.

35 "Municipality" means any city, borough, village, town or  
36 township in South Jersey but not a county or a school district.

37 "New Jersey Expressway Authority" means the authority created  
38 pursuant to P.L.1962, c.10 (C.27:12C-1 et seq.).

39 "Original authority" means the New Jersey Expressway  
40 Authority or the Atlantic County Transportation Authority.

41 "Paratransit service" means any transportation service~~],~~ other  
42 than motorbus regular route service ~~]~~ and motorbus charter service,  
43 including but not limited to, dial-a-ride, non-regular route, jitney or  
44 community minibus, and shared-ride services such as vanpools,  
45 limousines or taxicabs which are regularly available to the public.  
46 Paratransit services shall not include limousine or taxicab service  
47 reserved for the private and exclusive use of individual passengers~~]~~.

1 "Parking facility" means any area or place, garage, building, or  
2 other improvement or structure for the parking or storage of motor  
3 or other vehicles, including but not limited to all real property and  
4 personal property, driveways, roads and other structures or areas  
5 necessary or useful or convenient for access to a facility from a  
6 public street, road or highway, or from any transportation project;  
7 meters, mechanical equipment necessary or useful or convenient for  
8 or in connection with that parking or storage; and any structures,  
9 buildings, space or accommodations, whether constructed by an  
10 authority or by the lessee, to be leased for any business, commercial  
11 or other use, including the sale of gasoline or accessories for, or the  
12 repair or other servicing of automobiles and other motor vehicles,  
13 if, in the opinion of the authority, the inclusion, provision and  
14 leasing is necessary to assist in defraying the expenses of the  
15 authority and make possible the operation of the parking facility at  
16 reasonable rates, but the authority shall not itself engage in the sale  
17 of gasoline or accessories for, or in the repair or other servicing of  
18 automobiles or other motor vehicles except in emergency, nor in the  
19 sale of any service or commodity of trade or commerce.

20 "Project" means an expressway project or transportation project  
21 and the costs associated therewith.

22 "Public highway" means any public highway, road or street in  
23 South Jersey, including federal aid highways, whether maintained  
24 by the State or by a county, municipality or other governmental  
25 subdivision in South Jersey.

26 "Public transportation facility" means, in connection with public  
27 transportation service, passenger stations, shelters and terminals,  
28 automobile and bus parking facilities, ramps, track connections,  
29 signal systems, power systems, information and communication  
30 systems, roadbeds, transit lanes or rights-of-way, equipment storage  
31 and servicing facilities, bridges, grade crossings, rail cars,  
32 locomotives, motorbuses and other motor vehicles, maintenance and  
33 garage facilities, revenue handling equipment and any other  
34 equipment, facility or property useful or related to the provision of  
35 transportation service.

36 "Public transportation service" means rail passenger service,  
37 motorbus regular route service, paratransit service, motorbus  
38 charter service and marine passenger service.

39 "Rail passenger service" means the operation of railroad,  
40 subway, or light rail systems including fixed and automated  
41 guideway systems for the purpose of carrying passengers in South  
42 Jersey or between points within South Jersey and points without  
43 South Jersey.

44 "Real property" means lands within the State, above or below  
45 water, and improvements thereof or thereon, or any riparian or other  
46 rights or interests therein.

47 "South Jersey" means the area encompassing the counties of  
48 Atlantic, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem.

1 "Transfer date" means, with respect to the New Jersey  
2 Expressway Authority, the date on which all bonds issued by the  
3 New Jersey Expressway Authority cease to be outstanding within  
4 the meaning of the resolutions pursuant to which those bonds were  
5 issued, as certified by the trustee or trustees thereunder and, with  
6 respect to the Atlantic County Transportation Authority, the date on  
7 which New Jersey Economic Development Authority first mortgage  
8 revenue bonds, series of 1980, dated July 1, 1980, (New York  
9 Parking Associates - Parking Authority of Atlantic City project)  
10 issued by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority cease  
11 to be outstanding within the meaning of the indenture pursuant to  
12 which those bonds were issued, as certified by the trustees  
13 thereunder or the date on which the South Jersey Transportation  
14 Authority certifies to the Atlantic County Transportation Authority  
15 for a predecessor authority to the Atlantic County Transportation  
16 Authority and the State Treasurer that it assumes all debts and  
17 obligations of the Atlantic County Transportation Authority.

18 "Transportation facility" means any area, place, building, or  
19 other structure designed to provide rail passenger service, motorbus  
20 regular route service, paratransit service, motorbus charter service,  
21 air passenger and air freight service, or marine passenger service, or  
22 any two or more of these services, to the public, and includes  
23 passenger stations, shelters and terminals, air passenger terminals,  
24 hangars, heliports, docking and launching facilities, parking  
25 facilities, ramps, track connections, signal systems, power systems,  
26 information and communication systems, roadbeds, transit lanes or  
27 rights-of-way, equipment storage and servicing facilities, bridges,  
28 grade crossings, rail cars, locomotives, motorbus and other motor  
29 vehicles, boats, ferries and other marine vehicles, aircraft,  
30 maintenance and garage facilities, revenue handling equipment and  
31 any other equipment, facility or property useful for or related to the  
32 provision of these services;

33 "Transportation project" means the acquisition, construction, and  
34 maintenance of an airport, public transportation facility or other  
35 transportation facility, established by this act or which may be  
36 hereafter established by law and may include related facilities and  
37 activities which may consist of public transportation services,  
38 public transportation facilities, including but not limited to rail and  
39 bus stations and terminals, noise abatement projects, parking  
40 facilities, public highways and feeder roads related to or connected  
41 with the project, and any economic development facilities as  
42 defined in this section. Transportation project includes any planning  
43 necessary to develop a comprehensive, efficient, convenient or  
44 economical transportation system in South Jersey, any planning or  
45 marketing necessary or desirable for the execution of any  
46 transportation project, and any planning, acquisition, construction  
47 or operation of economic development facilities related to,  
48 connected with, or in the vicinity of the project.

1 "Transportation system" means public highways, expressway  
2 projects, transportation projects, and all other methods of  
3 transportation for the movement of people and goods in South  
4 Jersey.

5 "Transportation Trust Fund Authority" means the New Jersey  
6 Transportation Trust Fund Authority established by section 4 of  
7 P.L.1984, c.73 (C.27:1B-4).  
8 (cf: P.L.1991, c.252, s.3)]<sup>1</sup>

9  
10 <sup>1</sup>1. a. As used in this section:

11 "Department" means the Department of Transportation.

12 "Limousine" means a motor vehicle registered under the  
13 provisions of section 12 of P.L.1979, c.224 (C.39:3-19.5) or registered  
14 as a limousine under the laws of another state or the United States and  
15 used exclusively in the business of carrying passengers for hire to  
16 provide prearranged passenger transportation at a premium fare on a  
17 dedicated, nonscheduled, charter basis that is not conducted on a  
18 regular route and with a seating capacity in no event of more than 14  
19 passengers, not including the driver, provided, that such a motor  
20 vehicle shall not have a seating capacity in excess of four passengers,  
21 not including the driver, beyond the maximum passenger seating  
22 capacity of the vehicle, not including the driver, at the time of  
23 manufacture. "Limousine" shall not include any taxicab, hotel or  
24 airport shuttle or bus, or bus employed solely in transporting  
25 schoolchildren or teachers to and from school, or any vehicle owned  
26 and operated without charge or remuneration by a business entity for  
27 its own purposes.

28 "Medicaid program" or "Medicaid" means the State Medicaid  
29 program established pursuant to P.L.1968, c.413 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.).

30 "Medicaid transportation service" means the non-emergency  
31 medical transport of a beneficiary of the Medicaid program, which  
32 service is provided through the use of a mobility assistance vehicle or  
33 livery vehicle, is necessary for the beneficiary to receive covered  
34 medical services, and is provided in compliance with Title XIX of the  
35 federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. s.1396 et seq.), P.L.1968, c.413  
36 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.), P.L.1981, c.134 (C.30:4D-6.2 et seq.), and any  
37 rules or regulations adopted thereunder.

38 "Mobility assistance vehicle" means a chauffeured vehicle that is  
39 staffed by certified trained personnel, and which is used to transport a  
40 non-ambulatory Medicaid beneficiary who is sick, has an infirmity, or  
41 has a disability, and is under the care and supervision of a physician,  
42 and whose medical condition is not of sufficient magnitude or gravity  
43 to require transportation by ambulance, but is of sufficient magnitude  
44 or gravity to require transportation from place to place for medical  
45 care, and whose use of an alternate form of transportation might create  
46 a serious risk to the beneficiary's life or health.

47 "Paratransit service" means and includes any transportation  
48 service, other than fixed route transportation service, that is provided



1 by the New Jersey Transit Corporation, whether directly or indirectly  
2 through contract, to comply with the requirements of the federal  
3 “Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990” (42 U.S.C. s.12101 et seq.),  
4 by the Department of Labor and Workforce Development pursuant to  
5 P.L.1987, c.455 (C.34:16-51 et seq.), and by counties under the  
6 “Senior Citizen and Disabled Resident Transportation Assistance Act,”  
7 P.L.1983, c.578 (C.27:25-25 et seq.). “Paratransit service” shall  
8 include Medicaid transportation service<sup>2</sup>, as delivered through the  
9 Medicaid program’s non-emergency medical transportation broker and  
10 in accordance with the rules and regulations set forth by the  
11 Department of Human Services<sup>2</sup>.

12 “Taxicab” means an autocab or taxi as defined in R.S.48:16-1,  
13 excluding school buses as defined in R.S.39:1-1, omnibuses as defined  
14 in R.S.39:1-1, and limousines.

15 “Transportation network company” means a corporation,  
16 partnership, sole proprietorship, or other entity that is registered as a  
17 business in the State or operates in this State, and uses a digital  
18 network to connect a transportation network company rider to a  
19 transportation network company driver to provide a prearranged ride.  
20 For the purposes of this definition, the terms “digital network,”  
21 “prearranged ride,” “transportation network company driver,” and  
22 “transportation network company rider” shall have the same meanings  
23 as provided in section 2 of P.L.2017, c.26 (C.39:5H-2).

24 b. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the contrary,  
25 <sup>2</sup>except any law, rule or regulation governing the Medicaid program’s  
26 non-emergency medical transportation approval process,<sup>2</sup> and to the  
27 extent permissible under federal law, for a period of two years  
28 following the effective date of this act, taxicabs, limousines, and  
29 transportation network companies shall be permitted to provide  
30 paratransit service within the State.

31 c. Within 60 days of the termination of the two-year period in  
32 which the provision of paratransit services is permitted by taxicabs,  
33 limousines, and transportation network companies, each paratransit  
34 provider that provided paratransit service by means of a taxicab,  
35 limousine, or transportation network company shall prepare and  
36 submit a report to the department containing the following  
37 information:

38 (1) information on the number of paratransit service rides provided  
39 during the two-year period;

40 (2) information on any vehicle safety, labor, environmental, or any  
41 other applicable violations that occurred during the provision of  
42 paratransit services; and

43 (3) information pertaining to each motor vehicle accident that  
44 occurred during the provision of paratransit services and any related  
45 injuries or insurance claims that resulted from each motor vehicle  
46 accident.

47 d. Within 90 days of the termination of the two-year period in  
48 which the provision of paratransit services is permitted by taxicabs,

1 limousines, and transportation network companies, the Department of  
2 Transportation, in consultation with the New Jersey Transit  
3 Corporation, the Department of Human Services, the Department of  
4 Labor and Workforce Development, and the Department of Health,  
5 shall prepare and submit a report to the Governor and, pursuant to  
6 section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature  
7 concerning the efficacy of allowing taxicabs, limousines, and  
8 transportation network companies to provide paratransit services in the  
9 State. The report shall include, at a minimum:

10 (1) information on the number of contracts entered into with  
11 paratransit providers that are taxicabs, limousines, or transportation  
12 network companies during the two-year period;

13 (2) information concerning the advantages and disadvantages of  
14 permitting taxicabs, limousines, and transportation network companies  
15 to provide paratransit services;

16 (3) a summary of the information provided to the department by  
17 each paratransit service provider pursuant to subsection c. of this  
18 section; and

19 (4) a recommendation of whether the temporary provision of  
20 paratransit service by taxicabs, limousines, and transportation network  
21 companies should be made permanent.

22 The department shall publish the report on the department's  
23 Internet website following the submission of the report to the  
24 Governor and Legislature.<sup>1</sup>

25  
26 <sup>1</sup>[4.] 2.<sup>1</sup> This act shall take effect <sup>1</sup>**[immediately]** on the first  
27 day of the fourth month next following the date of enactment, but the  
28 Commissioner of Transportation may take anticipatory administrative  
29 action in advance thereof as shall be necessary for the implementation  
30 of this act, and shall expire following the submission of the  
31 department's report to the Governor and the Legislature pursuant to  
32 subsection d. of section 1 of this act<sup>1</sup>.