

ASSEMBLY, No. 3238

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

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SYNOPSIS

Qualifies certain disabled veterans for toll rate exemptions and exemptions from motor vehicle registration fees.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/5/2024)

1 AN ACT qualifying certain disabled veterans for toll rate
2 exemptions and exemptions from motor vehicle registration fees,
3 amending P.L.1948, c.28, and amending and supplementing
4 P.L.1997, c.59.

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

8
9 1. Section 6 of P.L.1997, c.59 (C.27:23-34.1) is amended to
10 read as follows:

11 6. As used in sections 6 through 10 of P.L.1997, c.59 (C.27:23-
12 34.1 through C.27:23-34.5), **[and]** section 3 of P.L.2021, c.251
13 (C.27:23-34.7), and section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
14 before the Legislature as this bill):

15 "Authority" means the New Jersey Turnpike Authority
16 established by section 3 of P.L.1948, c.454 (C.27:23-3).

17 "Electronic toll collection system" means the electronic system
18 employed or utilized by the authority to register and collect the toll
19 required to be paid for a vehicle entering a toll plaza owned or
20 operated by, or on behalf of, the authority.

21 "Lessee" means any person, corporation, firm, partnership,
22 agency, association or organization that rents, leases or contracts for
23 the use of a vehicle and has exclusive use of the vehicle for any
24 period of time.

25 "Lessor" means any person, corporation, firm, partnership,
26 agency, association or organization engaged in the business of
27 renting or leasing vehicles to any lessee under a rental agreement,
28 lease or other contract that provides the lessee with the exclusive
29 use of the vehicle for any period of time.

30 "Operator" means the term "operator" as defined in R.S.39:1-1.

31 "Owner" means the term "owner" as defined in R.S.39:1-1.

32 "Toll collection monitoring system" means a vehicle sensor,
33 placed in a location to work in conjunction with a toll collection
34 facility, that produces one or more photographs, one or more
35 microphotographs, a videotape or other recorded images, or a
36 written record, of a vehicle at the time the vehicle is used or
37 operated in a violation of the toll collection monitoring system
38 regulations. The term shall also include any other process that
39 identifies a vehicle by photographic, electronic or other method.

40 "Toll collection monitoring system regulations" means the
41 regulations authorized and adopted pursuant to section 7 of
42 P.L.1997, c.59 (C.27:23-34.2) that prohibit a vehicle from making
43 use of any project except upon the payment of such tolls as may
44 from time to time be prescribed by the authority and that further
45 makes it a violation subject to a civil penalty for any person to

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.

1 refuse to pay, to evade, or to attempt to evade the payment of such
2 tolls, if the violation is recorded by a toll collection monitoring
3 system as defined in this section.

4 "Vehicle" means the term "vehicle" as defined in R.S.39:1-1.
5 (cf: P.L.2021, c.251, s.1)

6
7 2. (New section) Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation
8 to the contrary, the New Jersey Turnpike Authority shall not charge
9 a toll to any customer with an account with the electronic toll
10 collection system, subject to sections 6 through 10 of P.L.1997,
11 c.59 (C.27:23-34.1 through C.27:23-34.5), and who is exempt from
12 the payment of motor vehicle registration fees pursuant to section 1
13 of P.L.1948, c.28 (C.39:3-27.1), on any toll facility operated by the
14 authority.

15
16 3. Section 11 of P.L.1997, c.59 (C.27:25A-21.1) is amended to
17 read as follows:

18 11. As used in sections 11 through 15 of P.L.1997, c.59
19 (C.27:25A-21.1 through C.27:25A-21.5), **and** section 4 of
20 P.L.2021, c.251 (C.27:25A-21.7), and section 4 of
21 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill):

22 "Authority" means the South Jersey Transportation Authority
23 established by section 4 of P.L.1991, c.252 (C.27:25A-4).

24 "Electronic toll collection system" means the electronic system
25 employed or utilized by the authority to register and collect the toll
26 required to be paid for a vehicle entering a toll plaza owned or
27 operated by, or on behalf of, the authority.

28 "Lessee" means any person, corporation, firm, partnership,
29 agency, association or organization that rents, leases or contracts for
30 the use of a vehicle and has exclusive use of the vehicle for any
31 period of time.

32 "Lessor" means any person, corporation, firm, partnership,
33 agency, association or organization engaged in the business of
34 renting or leasing vehicles to any lessee under a rental agreement,
35 lease or other contract that provides the lessee with the exclusive
36 use of the vehicle for any period of time.

37 "Operator" means the term "operator" as defined in R.S.39:1-1.

38 "Owner" means the term "owner" as defined in R.S.39:1-1.

39 "Toll collection monitoring system" means a vehicle sensor,
40 placed in a location to work in conjunction with a toll collection
41 facility, that produces one or more photographs, one or more
42 microphotographs, a videotape or other recorded images, or a
43 written record, of a vehicle at the time the vehicle is used or
44 operated in a violation of the toll collection monitoring system
45 regulations. The term shall also include any other process that
46 identifies a vehicle by photographic, electronic or other method.

47 "Toll collection monitoring system regulations" means the
48 regulations authorized and adopted pursuant to section 12 of

1 P.L.1997, c.59 (C.27:25A-21.2) that prohibit a vehicle from making
2 use of any project except upon the payment of such tolls as may
3 from time to time be prescribed by the authority and that further
4 makes it a violation subject to a civil penalty for any person to
5 refuse to pay, to evade, or to attempt to evade the payment of such
6 tolls, if the violation is recorded by a toll collection monitoring
7 system as defined in this section.

8 "Vehicle" means the term "vehicle" as defined in R.S.39:1-1.
9 (cf: P.L.2021, c.251, s.2)

10
11 4. (New section) Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation
12 to the contrary, the South Jersey Transportation Authority shall not
13 charge a toll to any customer with an account with the electronic
14 toll collection system, subject to sections 11 through 15 of
15 P.L.1997, c.59 (C.27:25A-21.1 through C.27:25A-21.5), and who is
16 exempt from the payment of motor vehicle registration fees
17 pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1948, c.28 (C.39:3-27.1), on any toll
18 facility operated by the authority.

19
20 5. Section 1 of P.L.1948, c.28 (C.39:3-27.1) is amended to read
21 as follows:

22 1. No fee shall be charged for the registration, in any year or
23 years, of one motor vehicle of passenger type, which is not to be
24 used for hire, owned by any resident of the State of New Jersey,
25 individually or jointly with a spouse[;] :

26 (1) who is eligible for compensation pursuant to [R.S. 38:18-1,
27 38:18-2 and 38:18-3,] R.S.38:18-1, R.S.38:18-2, R.S.38:18-3, and
28 P.L.1947, c.263 (C.38:18A-1 et seq.);

29 (2) who has qualified or shall qualify under the provisions of
30 Public Law 663-79th Congress of the United States of America
31 (August 8, 1946) or of Public Law 187--82nd Congress of the
32 United States of America (October 20, 1951) or who is a veteran of
33 World War I with service-connected disabilities of the kind set
34 forth in said Public Laws, and who is the holder of a current driver's
35 license issued by this State, if such motor vehicle is equipped with
36 such special attachments and devices as the [Director of the
37 Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Law and Public
38 Safety] Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle
39 Commission may deem necessary to provide for the safe operation
40 thereof by such person[, or] ;

41 (3) who is the holder of the Congressional Medal of Honor,
42 which registration shall be evidenced by distinctive license plates of
43 a design approved by the [Director of the Division of Motor
44 Vehicles,] chief administrator; or

45 (4) who has completed a VA 21-4502 form and has been
46 approved by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to

1 receive an automobile or other conveyance and adaptive equipment
2 pursuant to 38 U.S.C. s.3901 et seq.
3 (cf: P.L.1979, c.122, s.1)
4

5 6. This act shall take effect on the first day of the 13th month
6 following enactment, however the Chief Administrator of the New
7 Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, the Executive Director of the
8 New Jersey Turnpike Authority, and the Executive Director of the
9 South Jersey Transportation Authority may take such anticipatory
10 actions, including the coordination of any administrative actions, as
11 may be required for the timely implementation of this act.
12
13

14 STATEMENT

15
16 This bill qualifies certain disabled veterans for toll rate
17 exemptions and exemptions from motor vehicle registration fees.

18 The bill expands the motor vehicle registration fee exemption
19 from disabled veterans, who had taken part in World War II, the
20 Korean Conflict between 1950 and 1953, and the Vietnam Conflict
21 between 1960 and 1974, and who receive compensation as result of
22 the loss of use of one or more limbs as result of military service, to
23 include disabled veterans, who have completed a VA 21-4502 form
24 and have been approved by the United States Department of
25 Veterans Affairs to receive an automobile or other conveyance and
26 adaptive equipment.

27 The bill requires the New Jersey Turnpike Authority and the
28 South Jersey Transportation Authority to not charge a toll to any
29 customer with an account with the electronic toll collection system,
30 commonly known as E-ZPass, and who is exempt from the payment
31 of motor vehicle registration fees, on the State's three toll roads, the
32 New Jersey Turnpike, the Garden State Parkway, and the Atlantic
33 City Expressway.