

# ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 213

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 30, 2025

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman ALEX SAUICKIE**

**District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)**

**Assemblyman CHRISTOPHER P. DEPHILLIPS**

**District 40 (Bergen, Essex and Passaic)**

**Assemblyman JOHN V. AZZARITI JR., M.D.**

**District 39 (Bergen)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

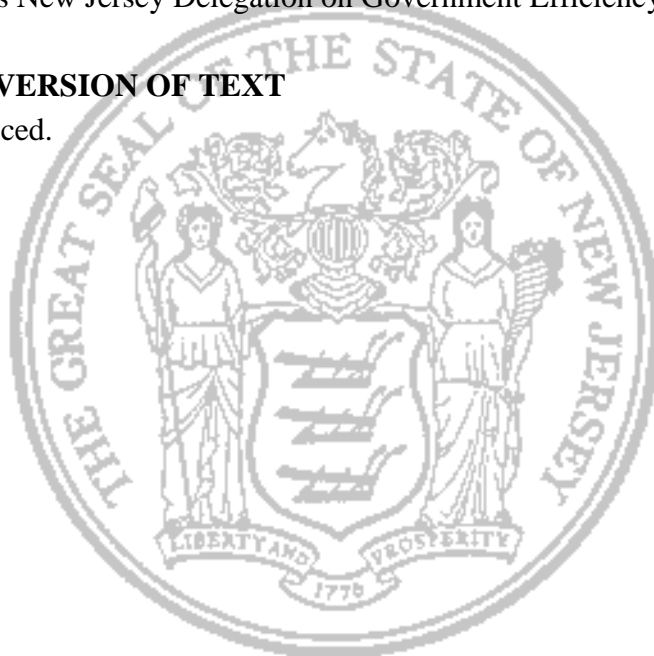
**Assemblywoman Fantasia, Assemblymen Inganamort, Scharfenberger, Barlas, Auth, Assemblywoman Flynn, Assemblymen McClellan and Simonsen**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes New Jersey Delegation on Government Efficiency.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/27/2025)

1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** establishing a New Jersey Delegation on  
2 Government Efficiency.

3

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

6

7 1. a. There is established a New Jersey Delegation on  
8 Government Efficiency (DOGE) in, but not of, the Department of  
9 the Treasury. The purpose of the DOGE shall be to examine  
10 various aspects of State government to determine how to better save  
11 public funds and how to implement greater efficiencies in  
12 government functions.

13 b. The DOGE shall consist of the State Auditor, or a designee,  
14 who shall serve as chairperson, and up to 20 members of the public  
15 who shall be selected and appointed by the Delegation on  
16 Government Efficiency Selection Committee pursuant to the  
17 process established under subsection c. of this section. The  
18 selection committee shall consist of the following members:

19 (1) the Governor, or a designee;

20 (2) the President of the Senate, or a designee;

21 (3) the Speaker of the General Assembly, or a designee;

22 (4) the Minority Leader of the Senate, or a designee; and

23 (5) the Minority Leader of the General Assembly, or a designee.

24 c. The selection committee shall select and appoint the public  
25 members of the DOGE from among qualified persons who submit  
26 applications to the selection committee. An applicant shall be  
27 appointed upon the approval of at least four members of the  
28 selection committee. The selection committee shall issue a public  
29 notice on the Internet sites of each principal department in the  
30 Executive Branch of State government, the Division of Taxation in  
31 the Department of the Treasury, the New Jersey Motor Vehicle  
32 Commission, and the Legislature soliciting applications for public  
33 membership. The public notice shall include, but may not be  
34 limited to, instructions on how to apply to be a public member of  
35 the DOGE, details of the position requirements and approval  
36 process, and a description of the duties of a public DOGE member.  
37 The position requirements shall be developed and approved by at  
38 least four members of the selection committee and shall include, at  
39 a minimum:

40 (1) appropriate and relevant experience of the applicant in  
41 presiding over, managing, or conducting performance audits on any  
42 large public or private enterprise; and

43 (2) a statement of potential conflicts of interest from the  
44 applicant.

45 The chairperson of the DOGE may dismiss a public DOGE  
46 member for any reason, including upon the discovery of unreported  
47 conflicts of interest. Vacancies among the public membership of

1 the DOGE due to dismissal or voluntary leave shall be filled in the  
2 same manner as the original appointment.

3 The selection committee may set an hourly or per diem rate to be  
4 paid to the approved public members for the duration of their tenure  
5 on the DOGE. The chairperson of the DOGE may recommend to  
6 the selection committee such changes to an hourly or per diem rate  
7 established by the selection committee as the chairperson deems  
8 appropriate to attract and retain public members of the DOGE. The  
9 establishment of and any changes to the hourly or per diem rate  
10 shall be subject to the approval of at least four members of the  
11 selection committee.

12 d. The meetings of the DOGE shall be held at the call of the  
13 chairperson at the times and in the places necessary and appropriate  
14 to fulfill its duties and responsibilities. Meetings of the DOGE  
15 shall be subject to the "Open Public Meetings Act," P.L.1975, c.231  
16 (C.10:4-6 et seq.).

17 e. The Department of the Treasury shall provide staff support  
18 to the DOGE. The DOGE shall be entitled to call to its assistance  
19 and avail itself of the services of the employees of any State,  
20 county, or municipal department, board, bureau, commission, or  
21 agency as the DOGE may require and as may be available to the  
22 DOGE for its purposes.

23 f. It shall be the duty of the DOGE to examine various aspects  
24 of State government to determine and report on how to:

- 25 (1) better save public funds; and  
26 (2) implement greater efficiencies in government functions,  
27 including, but not limited to, the elimination of any agency or  
28 government function.

29 The chairperson shall develop a procedure by which members of  
30 the public may suggest actions or areas of review that may assist the  
31 DOGE in determining how to better save public funds and how to  
32 implement greater efficiencies in government functions.

33 g. Within 20 months of the DOGE's first meeting, the DOGE  
34 shall report to the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant to  
35 section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), on its findings and  
36 recommendations by issuing a report upon the conclusion of its  
37 work. The report shall be publicly available on the Department of  
38 the Treasury's Internet website.

39  
40 2. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately and shall  
41 expire upon the submission of the New Jersey Delegation on  
42 Government Efficiency's report.

43  
44

45 STATEMENT

46  
47 This bill establishes a New Jersey Delegation on Government  
48 Efficiency (DOGE). The DOGE will examine various aspects of

1 State government to determine how to better save public funds and  
2 how to implement greater efficiencies in government functions,  
3 including, but not limited to, the elimination of any agency or  
4 government function.

5 The bill is intended to create a State-level version of the  
6 “Department of Government Efficiency” program initiated by the  
7 current federal administration. The bill structures the hiring and  
8 supervision of DOGE members to be as nonpartisan and  
9 independent as possible.

10 While responsible government stewardship of taxpayer dollars  
11 should always be a priority, it is a particularly acute need now that  
12 the State is grappling with a multi-billion dollar structural deficit,  
13 meaning the budget is billions short of revenue to pay for its level  
14 of spending. With the continuation of full pension payments and  
15 the upcoming need to fund the Stay NJ property tax relief program  
16 for seniors, reductions and efficiencies in other State spending must  
17 be addressed to ensure such priorities can be maintained.

18 The DOGE will consist of the State Auditor, or a designee, who  
19 will serve as chairperson, and up to 20 members of the public who  
20 will be selected and appointed by the Delegation on Government  
21 Efficiency Selection Committee. The selection committee will  
22 include the following members:

- 23 (1) the Governor, or a designee;
- 24 (2) the President of the Senate, or a designee;
- 25 (3) the Speaker of the General Assembly, or a designee;
- 26 (4) the Minority Leader of the Senate, or a designee; and
- 27 (5) the Minority Leader of the General Assembly, or a designee.

28 The selection committee will select and appoint public members  
29 of the DOGE from among qualified persons who submit  
30 applications to the selection committee for membership on the  
31 DOGE. An applicant will require the approval of at least four  
32 members of the selection committee to be selected and appointed to  
33 the DOGE. This ensures bipartisan agreement.

34 The selection committee will issue a public notice on the Internet  
35 sites of each principal department in the Executive Branch of State  
36 government, the Division of Taxation in the Department of the  
37 Treasury, the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, and the  
38 Legislature soliciting applications for public membership. The  
39 public notice will include, at a minimum, instructions on how to  
40 apply to be a public member of the DOGE, details of the position  
41 requirements and approval process, and a description of the duties  
42 of a public DOGE member. The position requirements will be  
43 developed and approved by at least four members of the selection  
44 committee to ensure bipartisan agreement, and will include, at a  
45 minimum, appropriate and relevant experience of the applicant in  
46 presiding over, managing, or conducting performance audits on any  
47 large public or private enterprise, and a statement of potential  
48 conflicts of interest from the applicant. The chairperson of the

1 DOGE may dismiss a public DOGE member for any reason,  
2 including upon the discovery of unreported conflicts of interest.  
3 Vacancies among the public membership of the DOGE due to  
4 dismissal or voluntary leave will be filled in the same manner as the  
5 original appointment.

6 The selection committee may set an hourly or per diem rate to be  
7 paid to the approved public members for the duration of their tenure  
8 on the DOGE. The chairperson of the DOGE may recommend to  
9 the selection committee changes to the hourly or per diem rate  
10 established by the selection committee as the chairperson deems  
11 appropriate to attract and retain public members of the DOGE. The  
12 establishment of and any changes to the hourly or per diem rate will  
13 be subject to the approval of at least four members of the selection  
14 committee.

15 The chairperson of the DOGE will develop a procedure by which  
16 members of the public may suggest actions or areas of review that  
17 may assist the DOGE in determining how to better save public  
18 funds and how to implement greater efficiencies in government  
19 functions.

20 The DOGE will meet at the call of the chairperson at the times  
21 and in the places necessary to fulfill its duties and responsibilities.  
22 Within 20 months after the its first meeting, the DOGE will issue a  
23 report to the Governor and the Legislature on its findings and  
24 recommendations upon the conclusion of its work. The report will  
25 be publicly available on the Department of the Treasury's Internet  
26 website.