

# SENATE, No. 970

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO**

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

**Senator PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senator Space**

**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: 1/25/2024)**

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.