

**SENATE, No. 2607**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**221st LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 5, 2024

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator M. TERESA RUIZ**

**District 29 (Essex and Hudson)**

**Senator ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT**

**District 31 (Hudson)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Corrado and Burgess**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires private bus operators to provide notice and hold public meetings for certain service changes.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/15/2024)**

1 AN ACT concerning requirements for certain private bus operators  
2 and supplementing Title 27 of the Revised Statutes.

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

6  
7 1. a. Each private entity that operates motorbus regular route  
8 service, as that term is defined in section 3 of P.L.1979, c.150  
9 (C.27:25-3), or portions or functions thereof, shall:

10 (1) provide at least four months written notice to the New Jersey  
11 Motor Vehicle Commission and the New Jersey Transit Corporation  
12 prior to the substantial curtailment, as that term is defined in section 8  
13 of P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-8), of such service;

14 (2) provide at least three months written notice to the service's  
15 customers prior to the substantial curtailment of such service; and

16 (3) hold at least one public meeting in the affected area, as close as  
17 possible to the highest trafficked stop on the route, within 15 days after  
18 providing notice to the service's customers pursuant to paragraph (2)  
19 of this subsection. Prior to holding the public meeting, the private  
20 entity shall provide written notice of the public meeting to the New  
21 Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, the New Jersey Transit  
22 Corporation, as well as the State legislators representing any  
23 legislative district, the mayor and governing body of any municipality,  
24 and the board of county commissioners of any county that will be  
25 affected by the substantial curtailment of such service.

26 b. A private entity that is determined to be in violation of  
27 subsection a. of this section shall be subject to a civil penalty not to  
28 exceed \$10,000 for each violation, in addition to any penalties that  
29 may be available pursuant to law.

30 c. The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission shall adopt rules  
31 and regulations to implement the provisions of this section and shall  
32 take any action necessary to ensure that private entities are in  
33 compliance with the provisions of subsection a. of this section.

34 d. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to prohibit  
35 the New Jersey Transit Corporation or any other instrumentality of the  
36 State that provides funds or compensation to a private entity from  
37 conditioning participation in any program, receipt of funds, or entry  
38 into a contractual agreement on adherence to the notice and public  
39 meeting requirements provided in this section.

40  
41 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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44 **STATEMENT**

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46 This bill establishes several requirements for a private entity that  
47 operates motorbus regulator route service. Specifically, these  
48 private entities would be required to: (1) provide at least four

1 months written notice to the New Jersey Motor Vehicle  
2 Commission (commission) and NJ Transit prior to the substantial  
3 curtailment of such service; (2) provide at least three months  
4 written notice to the service's customers prior to the substantial  
5 curtailment of such service; and (3) hold at least one public meeting  
6 in the affected area, as close as possible to the highest trafficked  
7 stop on the route, within 15 days after providing notice to the  
8 service's customers. Prior to holding the public meeting, the private  
9 entity is required to provide written notice of the public meeting to  
10 the commission, NJ Transit, as well as the State legislators  
11 representing any legislative district, the mayor and governing body  
12 of any municipality, and the board of county commissioners of any  
13 county that will be affected by the substantial curtailment of such  
14 service.

15 A private entity found to be in violation of the bill is subject to a  
16 civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 for each violation, which  
17 penalty is to be in addition to any other penalties that may be  
18 available pursuant to law.

19 The bill requires the commission to adopt rules and regulations  
20 to implement the bill and to take any action necessary to ensure that  
21 private entities are in compliance with the bill's provisions.