

SENATE ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2879

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 10, 2024

The Senate Environment and Energy Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2879.

This bill would create the Office of Sustainability in the Department of the Treasury. The office would be responsible for developing and implementing environmental sustainability measures in all State buildings and coordinating with all owners of real property in which State agencies are located in an effort to implement environmental sustainability practices in those buildings. These measures and practices would include using resources efficiently and minimizing raw material resource consumption, maximizing resource reuse, creating healthy working environments, and protecting and restoring the natural environment.

Specifically, the office would: (1) develop and implement initiatives to improve energy efficiency, increase water conservation, reduce carbon footprints, and implement applicable principles set forth in various green building rating systems, in State buildings; (2) oversee standardized energy audits at least once every three years at all State buildings, and oversee the implementation of the recommendations contained in those audits; and (3) coordinate with the Division of Purchase and Property for the procurement by every State agency of various energy efficient and environmentally sustainable products.