

ASSEMBLY, No. 5635

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 15, 2026

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman GABRIEL RODRIGUEZ
District 33 (Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes certain manufacturing requirements and penalties concerning wearable recording devices.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning wearable recording devices and supplementing
2 P.L.1960, c.39 (C.56:8-1 et seq.).
3

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

7 1. As used in this act:

8 “Visual indicator” means a visual signal including, but not
9 limited to, an illuminated light that indicates when a wearable
10 recording device is capturing sound or video.

11 “Wearable recording device” means a device designed to be
12 worn on or attached to the body that has the capability to make
13 sound or video recordings or transmit data received by the device to
14 another device, the Internet, or any cloud-based service. The term
15 shall not include a “body worn camera,” as defined in section 1 of
16 P.L.2020, c.129 (C.40A:14-118.5), or any similar device used by
17 law enforcement in this State.
18

19 2. It shall be an unlawful practice and a violation of P.L.1960,
20 c.39 (C.56:8-1 et seq.) for any manufacturer of wearable recording
21 devices to sell or offer for sale in this State a wearable recording
22 device unless the device:

23 a. is equipped with a visual indicator that automatically
24 activates whenever the device is capturing sound or video;

25 b. displays the visual indicator continuously for the duration of
26 the time that device is capturing sound or video;

27 c. displays the visual indicator in a manner that is reasonably
28 visible to an average person in the vicinity of an individual wearing
29 the device; and

30 d. is designed so that the visual indicator cannot be disabled,
31 altered, or otherwise circumvented while the device is capturing
32 sound or video.
33

34 3. a. A person shall not knowingly tamper with, disable,
35 deactivate, obstruct, alter, damage, or otherwise circumvent the
36 visual indicator functionality of a wearable recording device for the
37 purpose of preventing or impairing the visual indicator from
38 operating as designed by the manufacturer pursuant to section 2 of
39 this act.

40 b. A person who violates the provisions of subsection a. of this
41 section shall be liable to a civil penalty of not less than \$1,000 for
42 each violation, which shall be collected by the Director of the
43 Division of Consumer Affairs in a summary proceeding before a
44 court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to the provisions of the
45 “Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999,” P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10
46 et seq.). Each act that violates subsection a. of this section shall
47 constitute a separate violation. The Superior Court and the

1 municipal court, as appropriate, shall have jurisdiction to enforce
2 the provisions of the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999."

3 c. A violation of this section shall not be considered an
4 unlawful practice in violation of P.L.1960, c.39 (C.56:8-1 et seq.).

5
6 4. Nothing in this act shall be construed to limit, modify,
7 expand, or supersede the provisions of P.L.2020, c.129 (C.40A:14-
8 118.5 et seq.), or any rules or regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

9
10 5. The Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the
11 Department of Law and Public Safety shall, in accordance with the
12 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
13 seq.), adopt rules and regulations necessary to effectuate the
14 provisions of this act including, but not limited to, establishing
15 standards to prevent visual indicators from being disabled, altered,
16 or otherwise circumvented.

17
18 6. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh
19 month next following the date of enactment, except that the
20 provisions of section 5 of this act shall take effect immediately and
21 the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs may take any
22 anticipatory administrative action in advance as shall be necessary
23 for the implementation of this act.

24 25 26 STATEMENT

27
28 This bill establishes certain manufacturing requirements and
29 penalties concerning wearable recording devices.

30 Under the bill, the term "wearable recording device" is defined
31 as a device designed to be worn on or attached to the body that has
32 the capability to make sound or video recordings or transmit data
33 received by the device to another device, the Internet, or any cloud-
34 based service. The term does not include a body worn camera or
35 any similar device used by law enforcement in this State.

36 The bill prohibits a manufacturer of wearable recording devices
37 from selling or offering for sale in this State a wearable recording
38 device unless the device: (1) is equipped with a visual indicator that
39 automatically activates whenever the device is capturing sound or
40 video; (2) displays the visual indicator continuously for the duration
41 of the time that device is capturing sound or video; (3) displays the
42 visual indicator in a manner that is reasonably visible to an average
43 person in the vicinity of an individual wearing the device; and (4) is
44 designed so that the visual indicator cannot be disabled, altered, or
45 otherwise circumvented while the device is capturing sound or
46 video.

47 Under the bill, a person is prohibited from knowingly tampering
48 with, disabling, deactivating, obstructing, altering, damaging, or

1 otherwise interfering with the normal operation or recording
2 functionality of a wearable recording device for the purpose of
3 preventing or impairing the visual indicator from operating as
4 designed by the manufacturer pursuant to the provisions of this bill.

5 Additionally, a person who knowingly tampers with a wearable
6 recording device's visual indicator functionality is liable to a civil
7 penalty of not less than \$1,000 for each violation. The civil penalty
8 is to be collected by the Director of the Division of Consumer
9 Affairs in a civil action by a summary proceeding pursuant to the
10 "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999."

11 The provisions of this bill are not to be construed to limit,
12 modify, expand, or supersede the provisions concerning the use of
13 body worn cameras by law enforcement in this State or any rules or
14 regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

15 A manufacturer who violates the provisions of this bill is subject
16 to penalties pursuant to the consumer fraud act, which is punishable
17 by a monetary penalty of not more than \$10,000 for a first offense
18 and not more than \$20,000 for any subsequent offense. In addition,
19 violations may result in cease and desist orders issued by the
20 Attorney General, the assessment of punitive damages, and the
21 awarding of treble damages and costs to the injured party.