

P.L. 2026, CHAPTER 58, *approved July 30, 2026*
Senate. No. 3237

1 **AN ACT** providing that televisions in State buildings shall display
2 closed captioning for programming and supplementing Title 52
3 of the Revised Statutes.

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

1. Every television that is located in any portion of a building owned or leased by the State for the use of any State agency that is available for viewing by members of the public or public employees shall continuously display closed captioning for all programming for which closed captioning is available.

13 As used in this section:

14 “Closed captioning” means the visual display of written words
15 on a television screen of the audio portion of video programming;
16 and

17 “State agency” means any of the principal departments in the
18 Executive Branch of the State Government, and any division, board,
19 bureau, office, commission or other instrumentality within or
20 created by such department, and, to the extent consistent with law,
21 any interstate agency to which New Jersey is a party and any
22 independent State authority, commission, instrumentality, or
23 agency.

24 The provisions of this section shall not apply to any television
25 manufactured prior to the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.)
26 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) that cannot
27 accommodate closed captioning.

29 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

34 The purpose of this bill is to enable persons to more easily
35 understand television programs in State buildings. The bill
36 provides that every television that is located in any portion of a
37 building owned or leased by the State that is available for viewing

1 by members of the public or public employees shall display closed
2 captioning for all programming for which closed captioning is
3 available. Under the bill, “closed captioning” is the visual display
4 of written words on a television screen of the audio portion of video
5 programming.

6 The bill will not apply to any television manufactured before the
7 bill’s effective date that cannot accommodate closed captioning.

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12 Provides televisions in State buildings shall display closed
13 captioning for programming.