

SENATE, No. 4586

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 28, 2026

Sponsored by:
Senator PARKER SPACE
District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)
Senator BRIAN P. STACK
District 33 (Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Redefines covered person under Daniel’s Law protection to include persons employed in other states.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning privacy protection for certain persons and
2 amending P.L. 2021, c.371 and P.L.2015, c.226.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. Section 1 of P.L. 2020, c.371 (C.47:1B-1) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 1. a. As used in this act, P.L.2021, c.371 (C.47:1B-1 et al.):

10 "Authorized person" means a covered person or any of the
11 following persons hereby authorized to submit or revoke a request
12 for the redaction or nondisclosure of a home address on behalf of a
13 covered person:

14 (1) on behalf of any federal judge, a designee of the United
15 States Marshals Service or of the clerk of any United States District
16 Court, provided that the designee submits the affirmation required
17 under subsection d. of section 2 of P.L.2021, c.371 (C.47:1B-2)
18 signed by each federal judge for whom a request or revocation is
19 made;

20 (2) on behalf of any covered person who is deceased or
21 medically or psychologically incapacitated, a person acting on
22 behalf of the covered person as a designated trustee, as an estate
23 executor, or pursuant to a written power of attorney or other legal
24 instrument, provided that the person signs and submits the
25 affirmation required under subsection d. of section 2 of P.L.2021,
26 c.371 (C.47:1B-2) in the stead of the covered person; and

27 (3) on behalf of any immediate family member who is a minor
28 and who is otherwise entitled to address redaction or nondisclosure
29 pursuant to this act, the parent or legal guardian thereof.

30 "Covered person" means an active, formerly active, or retired
31 judicial officer, law enforcement officer, or child protective
32 investigator in the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, as
33 those terms are defined by section 1 of P.L.1995, c.23 (C.47:1A-
34 1.1), or prosecutor, and any immediate family member residing in
35 the same household as the judicial officer, law enforcement officer,
36 child protective investigator in the Division of Child Protection and
37 Permanency, or prosecutor, whether the person attained that status,
38 or a substantially equivalent status, in this State or in any other
39 state.

40 "Immediate family member" means a spouse, child, or parent of,
41 or any other family member related by blood or by law to, an active,
42 formerly active, or retired judicial officer, law enforcement officer,
43 or child protective investigator in the Division of Child Protection
44 and Permanency, as defined by section 1 of P.L.1995, c.23
45 (C.47:1A-1.1), or prosecutor and who resides in the same household

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 as the judicial officer, law enforcement officer, child protective
2 investigator in the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, or
3 prosecutor.

4 b. There is established in the Department of Community
5 Affairs an office to be known as the Office of Information Privacy.
6 The office shall be led by a director, who shall be appointed by and
7 serve at the pleasure of the Commissioner of Community Affairs
8 and who may hire staff as necessary.

9 c. The director shall establish:

10 (1) a secure portal through which an authorized person may
11 submit or revoke a request for the redaction or nondisclosure of a
12 covered person's home address from certain records and Internet
13 postings, as provided in section 2 of P.L.2021, c.371 (C.47:1B-2);
14 and such requests shall not be subject to disclosure under P.L.1963,
15 c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.);

16 (2) a process by which an authorized person may petition the
17 director for reconsideration of a denial of such request or any
18 revocations thereof;

19 (3) a process by which a person or entity may request receipt of a
20 record that does not contain redactions, or of information that is not
21 disclosable, resulting from subsection a. of section 2 of P.L.2021,
22 c.371 (C.47:1B-2); and

23 (4) a process for the evaluation of any other exceptions to the
24 requirement for redaction or nondisclosure pursuant to section 2 of
25 P.L.2021, c.371 (C.47:1B-2), whether categorical or individualized.
26 The director may grant an exception to any person or entity for the
27 receipt of the unredacted records or information pursuant to this
28 process.

29 d. The director shall evaluate and either approve or deny a
30 request submitted pursuant to subsection c. of this section and any
31 revocations thereof.

32 e. (1) The director may enter into any agreement or contract
33 necessary to effectuate the purposes of this act.

34 (2) The director may issue any guidance, guidelines, decisions,
35 or rules and regulations necessary to effectuate the purposes of this
36 act. The rules and regulations shall be effective immediately upon
37 filing with the Office of Administrative Law for a period not to
38 exceed 18 months, and shall, thereafter, be amended, adopted, or
39 readopted in accordance with the provisions of the "Administrative
40 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.).
41 (cf: P.L.2023, c.113, s.3)

42
43 2. Section 1 of P.L.2015, c.226 (C.2C:20-31.1) is amended to
44 read as follows:

45 1. a. For the purposes of this section:

46 "Authorized person" means a covered person or any of the
47 following persons hereby authorized to submit or revoke a request
48 for the redaction or nondisclosure of a home address or unpublished

1 telephone number on behalf of a covered person pursuant to
2 subsection c. of this section:

3 (1) on behalf of any federal judge, a designee of the United
4 States Marshals Service or of the clerk of any United States District
5 Court;

6 (2) on behalf of any covered person who is deceased or
7 medically or psychologically incapacitated, a person acting on
8 behalf of the covered person as a designated trustee, as an estate
9 executor, or pursuant to a written power of attorney or other legal
10 instrument; and

11 (3) on behalf of any immediate family member who is a minor
12 and who is otherwise entitled to address redaction or nondisclosure
13 pursuant to this act, P.L.2021, c.371 (C.47:1B-1 et al.), the parent or
14 legal guardian thereof.

15 "Covered person" means an active, formerly active, or retired
16 judicial officer, law enforcement officer, or child protective
17 investigator in the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, as
18 those terms are defined by section 1 of P.L.1995, c.23 (C.47:1A-
19 1.1), or prosecutor and any immediate family member residing in
20 the same household as the judicial officer, law enforcement officer,
21 child protective investigator in the Division of Child Protection and
22 Permanency, or prosecutor, whether the person attained that status,
23 or a substantially equivalent status, in this State or in any other
24 state.

25 "Home telephone number" means any telephone number used
26 primarily for personal communications, including a landline or
27 cellular telephone number.

28 "Immediate family member" means a spouse, child, or parent of,
29 or any other family member related by blood or by law to, an active,
30 formerly active, or retired judicial officer, law enforcement officer,
31 or child protective investigator in the Division of Child Protection
32 and Permanency, as those terms are defined by section 1 of
33 P.L.1995, c.23 (C.47:1A-1.1), or prosecutor and who resides in the
34 same household as the judicial officer, law enforcement officer,
35 child protective investigator in the Division of Child Protection and
36 Permanency, or prosecutor.

37 "News media" means newspapers, magazines, press associations,
38 news agencies, wire services, or other similar printed means of
39 disseminating news to the general public.

40 "Person" shall not be construed to include in any capacity the
41 custodian of a government record as defined in section 1 of
42 P.L.1995, c.23 (C.47:1A-1.1).

43 b. Upon notification pursuant to subsection c. of this section,
44 and not later than 10 business days after receipt thereof, a person
45 shall not knowingly, with purpose to expose another to harassment
46 or risk of harm to life or property, or in reckless disregard of the
47 probability of such exposure, post, repost, publish, or republish on
48 the Internet, or otherwise make available, the home address or

1 unpublished home telephone number of any covered person, except
2 in compliance with any court order, law enforcement investigation,
3 or request by a government agency or person duly acting on behalf
4 of the agency.

5 c. An authorized person, as defined in subsection a. of this
6 section, seeking to prohibit the disclosure of the home address or
7 unpublished home telephone number of any covered person
8 consistent with subsection b. of this section shall provide written
9 notice to the person from whom the authorized person is seeking
10 nondisclosure that the authorized person is an authorized person and
11 requesting that such person cease the disclosure of such information
12 and remove the protected information from the Internet or where
13 otherwise made available.

14 d. A reckless violation of subsection b. of this section is a
15 crime of the fourth degree. A purposeful violation of subsection b.
16 of this section is a crime of the third degree.

17 e. This section shall not be construed to prohibit a person,
18 business, or association that has received information as unredacted
19 pursuant to the provisions of sections 1 through 3 of P.L.2021,
20 c.371 (C.47:1B-1 through C.47:1B-3) from making the information
21 available consistent with the purposes for which the person,
22 business, or association received the information. A person,
23 business, or association that uses or makes available the information
24 in a way that is inconsistent with the purposes for which the person,
25 business, or association received the information shall be liable as
26 provided pursuant to subsection d. of this section.

27 f. Nothing herein shall be construed to impose liability on the
28 news media for failure to remove information from previously
29 printed newspapers, and nothing herein shall be construed to impose
30 liability relating to telephone directories or directory assistance
31 unless the covered person has requested to be unpublished in the
32 directory and directory assistance by the applicable publication
33 deadline.

34 (cf: P.L.2023, c.113, s.5)

35
36 3. a. Section 3 of P.L.2015 c.226 (C.56:8-166.1) is amended to
37 read as follows:

38 3. a. (1) Upon notification pursuant to paragraph (2) of this
39 subsection, and not later than 10 business days following receipt
40 thereof, a person, business, or association shall not disclose or re-
41 disclose on the Internet or otherwise make available, the home
42 address or unpublished home telephone number of any covered
43 person, as defined in subsection d. of this section.

44 (2) An authorized person seeking to prohibit the disclosure of the
45 home address or unpublished home telephone number of any
46 covered person consistent with paragraph (1) of this subsection
47 shall provide written notice to the person from whom the authorized
48 person is seeking nondisclosure that the authorized person is an

1 authorized person and requesting that the person cease the
2 disclosure of the information and remove the protected information
3 from the Internet or where otherwise made available.

4 (3) An immediate family member who has provided notice
5 pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection and who no longer
6 resides with the judicial officer, law enforcement officer, child
7 protective investigator in the Division of Child Protection and
8 Permanency, or prosecutor shall provide notice to that effect to the
9 person, business, or association not later than 30 days from the date
10 on which the immediate family member no longer resided with the
11 judicial officer, law enforcement officer, child protective
12 investigator in the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, or
13 prosecutor.

14 b. A person, business, or association that violates subsection a.
15 of this section shall be liable to the covered person or the covered
16 person's assignee, who may bring a civil action in the Superior
17 Court.

18 c. The court shall award:

19 (1) actual damages, but not less than liquidated damages
20 computed at the rate of \$1,000 for each violation of this act;

21 (2) punitive damages upon proof of willful or reckless disregard
22 of the law;

23 (3) reasonable attorney's fees and other litigation costs
24 reasonably incurred; and

25 (4) any other preliminary and equitable relief as the court
26 determines to be appropriate.

27 d. For the purposes of this section:

28 "Assignee" means a person or entity to whom or which an
29 authorized person has assigned, in writing, a covered person's right
30 to bring a civil action for a violation of subsection a. of this section.

31 "Authorized person" means a covered person or any of the
32 following persons hereby authorized to submit or revoke a request
33 for the redaction or nondisclosure of a home address on behalf of a
34 covered person:

35 (1) on behalf of any federal judge, a designee of the United
36 States Marshals Service or of the clerk of any United States District
37 Court;

38 (2) on behalf of any covered person who is deceased or
39 medically or psychologically incapacitated, a person acting on
40 behalf of the covered person as a designated trustee, as an estate
41 executor, or pursuant to a written power of attorney or other legal
42 instrument; and

43 (3) on behalf of any immediate family member who is a minor
44 and who is otherwise entitled to address redaction or nondisclosure
45 pursuant to this act, the parent or legal guardian thereof.

46 "Covered person" means an active, formerly active, or retired
47 judicial officer, law enforcement officer, or child protective
48 investigator in the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, as

1 those terms are defined by section 1 of P.L.1995, c.23 (C.47:1A-
2 1.1), or prosecutor, and any immediate family member residing in
3 the same household as such judicial officer, law enforcement
4 officer, child protective investigator in the Division of Child
5 Protection and Permanency, or prosecutor, whether the person
6 attained that status, or a substantially equivalent status, in this State
7 or in any other state.

8 "Disclose" shall mean to solicit, sell, manufacture, give, provide,
9 lend, trade, mail, deliver, transfer, post, publish, distribute,
10 circulate, disseminate, present, exhibit, advertise, or offer, and shall
11 include making available or viewable within a searchable list or
12 database, regardless of whether a search of such list or database is
13 actually performed.

14 "Home telephone number" means any telephone number used
15 primarily for personal communications, including a landline or
16 cellular telephone number.

17 "Immediate family member" means a spouse, child, or parent of,
18 or any other family member related by blood or by law to, an active,
19 formerly active, or retired judicial officer, law enforcement officer,
20 or child protective investigator in the Division of Child Protection
21 and Permanency, as those terms are defined by section 1 of
22 P.L.1995, c.23 (C.47:1A-1.1), or prosecutor and who resides in the
23 same household as such judicial officer, law enforcement officer,
24 child protective investigator in the Division of Child Protection and
25 Permanency, or prosecutor.

26 "News media" means newspapers, magazines, press associations,
27 news agencies, wire services, or other similar printed means of
28 disseminating news to the general public.

29 "Person" shall not be construed to include in any capacity the
30 custodian of a government record as defined in section 1 of
31 P.L.1995, c.23 (C.47:1A-1.1).

32 e. This section shall not be construed to prohibit a person,
33 business, or association that has received information as unredacted
34 pursuant to the provisions of sections 1 through 3 of P.L.2021,
35 c.371 (C.47:1B-1 through C.47:1B-3) from making the information
36 available consistent with the purposes for which the person,
37 business, or association received the information. A person,
38 business, or association that uses or makes available the information
39 in a way that is inconsistent with the purposes for which the person,
40 business, or association received the information shall be liable as
41 provided pursuant to subsection c. of this section.

42 f. Nothing herein shall be construed to impose liability on the
43 news media for failure to remove information from previously
44 printed newspapers, and nothing herein shall be construed to impose
45 liability relating to telephone directories or directory assistance

1 unless the covered person has requested to be unpublished in the
2 directory and directory assistance by the applicable publication
3 deadline.

4 (cf: P.L.2023, c.113, s.6)

5
6 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

7
8
9 STATEMENT

10
11 Currently, various public officials in the criminal and civil
12 justice systems for this State and for the federal government, are
13 covered under “Daniel’s Law,” P.L.2020, c.125 (C.56:8-166.2 et
14 al.). Daniel’s Law: (1) prohibits the disclosure, by both
15 governmental entities and private parties, of the home addresses of
16 any covered person; (2) expands an existing crime concerning the
17 disclosure of home addresses and unlisted telephone numbers of
18 covered persons; and (3) permits criminal prosecutions and
19 statutory civil actions concerning any prohibited disclosure.
20 “Covered persons” includes active, formerly active, or retired
21 federal, State, county, or municipal judicial officer, prosecutor, or
22 law enforcement officer.

23 This bill expands the definition of covered persons under
24 Daniel’s Law to include persons who attained the status as a
25 covered person, whether in this State or in any other state. Thus, a
26 law enforcement officer who qualified as a law enforcement officer
27 or as a covered person in any other state, could qualify for the
28 privacy protection under Daniel’s Law.

29 Under Daniel’s Law, a failure to comply with a request to cease
30 disclosure and removal of information of a covered person would
31 subject the person, business, or association to possible criminal
32 penalties for committing a third degree crime (punishable by three
33 to five years’ imprisonment; a fine of up to \$15,000; or both) or
34 fourth degree crime (up to 18 months’ imprisonment; a fine of up to
35 \$10,000; or both), or civil penalties (including either liquid
36 damages of \$1,000 for each violation, or actual damages if greater).

37 It is the intention of the sponsor to ensure that the privacy
38 protections for a “covered person” under Daniel’s Law shall apply,
39 regardless of where that status, or a substantially similar status, was
40 obtained.