

SENATE, No. 4645

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 1, 2026

Sponsored by:

Senator JOHN J. BURZICHELLI

District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE

District 19 (Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Gopal

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits private use and regulates government use of automated license plate readers.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/15/2026)

1 AN ACT concerning private and governmental use of automated
2 license plate readers and supplementing Title 52 of the Revised
3 Statutes.

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

7
8 1. As used in this act:

9 “ALPR data” means the raw data and derived data obtained by
10 an automated license plate reader.

11 “ALPR vendor” means a private individual or business, and any
12 subcontractor or other third party engaged by the private individual
13 or business, that sells or contracts to provide an automated license
14 plate reader or a service related to producing, installing,
15 maintaining, or operating an automated license plate reader or
16 ALPR data.

17 “Artificial intelligence analytics” means the process by which
18 artificial intelligence processes and analyzes data. This term
19 includes, but is not limited to, machine learning, natural language
20 processing, and data mining techniques to interpret data and make
21 predictions or recommendations.

22 “Automated license plate reader (ALPR)” means an electronic
23 device that photographs or scans the license plate of a motor vehicle
24 and uses artificial intelligence analytics to identify the license plate;
25 compares it with information contained in a database, including a
26 database maintained by a law enforcement agency; and generates
27 derived ALPR data. This term shall include both an electronic
28 device installed at a stationary location in the State and a mobile
29 device affixed to a police vehicle that can operate while the vehicle
30 is in motion. The term shall not include an automated license plate
31 reader owned or operated by the federal government.

32 “Derived data” means any new information created by an
33 automated license plate reader by applying artificial intelligence
34 analytics to the raw data.

35 “Law enforcement officer” means a person whose public duties
36 include the power to act as an officer for the detection,
37 apprehension, arrest, and conviction of offenders.

38 “Local law enforcement officer” means a law enforcement
39 officer employed by a county or municipality in this State.

40 “Out-of-State government entity” means a department, division,
41 bureau, commission, board, political subdivision, or any other
42 authority of another state or the federal government.

43 “Raw data” means the scan of a license plate or photograph
44 obtained by an automated license plate reader that has not been
45 processed, analyzed, interpreted, or summarized in any way.

46 “Secured area” means an area, enclosed by clear boundaries, to
47 which access is limited, that is not open to the public, and where
48 entry is only obtainable through specific controlled-access points.

1 “Serious crime” means any crime included in subsection d. of
2 section 2 of P.L.1997, c.117 (C.2C:43-7.2) and any substantially
3 similar crime under the laws of another state or the United States.

4 “State government entity” means a department, division, bureau,
5 commission, board, political subdivision, or any other authority of
6 this State.

7
8 2. An automated license plate reader may only be installed,
9 used, or accessed and ALPR data may only be used, accessed, or
10 shared as provided for in sections 3 and 4 of this act and as
11 provided for in any guidelines or directives issued by the Attorney
12 General pursuant to section 7 of this act.

13 a. Unless otherwise provided for in section 3 or 4 of this act,
14 each private or public individual or entity shall immediately:

15 (1) remove and cease use of any installed automated license
16 plate reader; and

17 (2) permanently delete any stored ALPR data.

18 b. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit anyone
19 from retaining ALPR data connected to an ongoing judicial process
20 or as required to comply with discovery pursuant to Rules of Court.

21 c. The Attorney General shall have the authority to institute a
22 civil action for injunctive relief to require a private entity or
23 individual to remove any automated license plate reader violating
24 this act and to enjoin a private entity or individual from using or
25 accessing an automated license plate reader or using, accessing, or
26 sharing ALPR data in violation of this act.

27
28 3. a. A State government entity may only install an automated
29 license plate reader, and an officer, employee, agent, contractor, or
30 other individual authorized to act by a State government entity may
31 only use or access an automated license plate reader or ALPR data,
32 to:

33 (1) regulate the use of a parking facility;

34 (2) control access to a secured area; or

35 (3) collect an electronic toll.

36 b. (1) In addition to the use or access authorized by subsection
37 a. of this section, the Division of State Police in the Department of
38 Law and Public Safety and a local law enforcement agency may
39 install an automated license plate reader, and a member of the State
40 Police or local law enforcement officer may use or access an
41 automated license plate reader or ALPR data, to determine whether
42 a license plate number, or partial license plate number, matches a
43 license plate number included on a “be on the lookout,” or BOLO,
44 list maintained solely for use in conjunction with the division’s or
45 the agency’s automated license plate readers.

46 (2) A BOLO list solely used in conjunction with an automated
47 license plate reader shall only include a license plate number, or a
48 partial license plate number, of a vehicle when the vehicle, or any

1 person reasonably believed to be associated with the vehicle, is
2 material to an investigation into, or a judicial process concerning,
3 whether the vehicle:

4 (a) is unregistered or uninsured;

5 (b) is being operated in violation of the inspection requirements
6 set forth in chapter 8 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes or the rules
7 and regulations implemented by the Chief Administrator of the
8 Motor Vehicle Commission in the Department of Transportation;

9 (c) is associated with a missing person including, but not limited
10 to, an individual identified in an Amber Alert, issued pursuant to
11 P.L.2002, c.129 (C.52:17B-194.1 et seq.); an individual identified
12 in a Silver Alert, issued pursuant to P.L.2009, c.167 (C.52:17B-
13 194.4 et seq.); an individual identified in an MVP Emergency Alert,
14 issued pursuant to P.L.2015, c.184 (C.52:17B-194.9 et seq.); or a
15 suspect identified in a Blue Alert, issued pursuant to P.L.2019,
16 c.369 (C.52:17B-194.12 et seq.);

17 (d) was stolen pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2023, c. 101
18 (C.2C:20-10.1); or

19 (e) was involved in or is relevant to an investigation into a
20 serious crime, including whether the vehicle is registered to a
21 person for whom there is an outstanding arrest warrant.

22 A BOLO list solely used in conjunction with an automated
23 license plate reader shall be updated as frequently as possible. A
24 BOLO list used in conjunction with an automated license plate
25 reader affixed to a police vehicle shall be updated, at a minimum, at
26 the start of each State Police member's or local law enforcement
27 officer's shift. A BOLO list used in conjunction with an automated
28 license plate reader installed at a stationary location shall be
29 updated at least daily.

30 (3) The division or a local law enforcement agency shall not
31 intentionally target use of an automated license plate reader towards
32 a population based on race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry,
33 age, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity
34 or expression, familial status, disability, nationality, sex, or because
35 of service, or liability for service, in the Armed Forces of the
36 United States when enforcing the provisions of this subsection,
37 except for subparagraph (c) of paragraph (2) of this subsection.

38 c. ALPR data may only be shared with an out-of-State
39 government entity or individual pursuant to a judicial warrant
40 supported by probable cause, or another valid court order, that
41 identifies the specific data being requested. Only the Attorney
42 General may share ALPR data after receiving a warrant or court
43 order from an out-of-State government entity or individual.

44 (1) An out-of-State government entity that obtains ALPR data
45 pursuant to this subsection shall not share the information with
46 anyone outside of the government entity. Any individual who
47 obtains ALPR data pursuant to this subsection shall not share the
48 information except as required or permitted during a judicial

1 process. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit an
2 out-of-State government entity or individual from sharing ALPR
3 data as required to comply with any judicial process or discovery
4 pursuant to Rules of Court or substantially similar rules under the
5 laws of another state or the United States.

6 (2) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require the
7 Attorney General to disclose ALPR data if doing so would
8 jeopardize an ongoing criminal investigation.

9 (3) An ALPR vendor shall not share or sell ALPR data.

10 d. ALPR data shall not be a public record and shall be exempt
11 from disclosure pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.),
12 commonly known as the open public records act, except for:

13 (1) the access, shared data, and retention logs required pursuant
14 to paragraph (3) of subsection b. of section 4 of this act. Before
15 sharing any information pursuant to a valid request under P.L.1963,
16 c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.), the license plate information and any other
17 information that could be used to identify a specific vehicle, such as
18 a photograph of the vehicle or the make, model, or color of a
19 vehicle, shall be redacted from the access, shared data, and
20 retention logs and any other documents shared pursuant to the
21 request; and

22 (2) information regarding a vehicle personally owned or leased
23 by the requestor. A requestor may only be an individual and may
24 not be a business, corporation, or any other entity. The requestor
25 shall, as part of the request for information, affirm through a
26 notarized, sworn statement:

27 (a) that the requestor is the sole owner or lessor of the vehicle
28 and no other individual drives the vehicle more than 10 percent of
29 the time; or

30 (b) the identity of each owner or lessor of the vehicle is
31 applicable, the identity of each individual who drives the vehicle
32 more than 10 percent of the time if applicable, and that no
33 individual identified in the sworn statement is subject to an
34 outstanding restraining order or protection order involving any
35 other individual included on the sworn statement. Each owner,
36 lessor, and driver identified on the request shall also sign the
37 request.

38 e. A State government entity may contract with an ALPR
39 vendor for the installation of an automated license plate reader
40 pursuant to subsection a. or b. of this section. Any ALPR data
41 generated by an automated license plate reader installed by an
42 ALPR vendor under contract with a State government entity shall
43 solely be the property of the State government entity.

44
45 4. a. (1) Each State government entity may implement and
46 maintain an ALPR data management system or contract with an
47 ALPR vendor for the creation and maintenance of a system.

1 (2) An ALPR vendor may only use or access ALPR data to
2 fulfill the requirements of the vendor's contract with the State
3 government entity.

4 (3) The Attorney General shall implement and maintain a
5 Statewide ALPR data management system to centrally store ALPR
6 data collected in the State. The system shall permit an authorized
7 individual in a State government entity to access or search, for a
8 purpose identified in subsection a. or b. of section 3 of this act,
9 through ALPR data collected by another State government entity
10 and shall provide a platform for the Attorney General to share
11 ALPR data pursuant to subsection c. of section 3 of this act.

12 b. Each ALPR data management system in the State operated
13 pursuant to subsection a. of this section, including any system
14 operated by an ALPR vendor under contract with a State
15 government entity, shall:

16 (1) prohibit access to and use of an automated license plate
17 reader or ALPR data unless the individual has been authorized by a
18 State government entity to use or access automated license plate
19 readers or ALPR data;

20 (2) never store the live feed generated by an automated license
21 plate reader;

22 (3) maintain an immutable access log that records each time,
23 and the identity of, any individual who accesses or queries ALPR
24 data. The Statewide ALPR data management system established
25 pursuant to paragraph (3) of subsection a. of this section shall also
26 maintain an immutable retention log that records any time ALPR
27 data is retained beyond the two day retention limit provided for in
28 paragraph (4) of this subsection, the reason for the retention
29 pursuant to subsection c. of this section, the identity of the
30 individual who made the request to retain the data, and the date the
31 data was permanently deleted. The Statewide system shall also
32 maintain an immutable shared data log that records each time ALPR
33 data is shared, who shared the data, and with whom the data was
34 shared. The Attorney General shall maintain a record of each
35 warrant and court order submitted by an out-of-State entity or
36 individual requesting ALPR data; and

37 (4) automatically and permanently delete ALPR data within two
38 days of the date of collection except as provided for in subsection c.
39 of this section. Nothing in this paragraph or subsection c. of this
40 section shall be construed to prohibit a State or an out-of-State
41 government entity from retaining ALPR data as required to comply
42 with discovery pursuant to Rules of Court, or substantially similar
43 rules under the laws of another state or the United States, or a
44 judicial process.

45 c. ALPR data may be retained on the Statewide ALPR data
46 management system established pursuant to paragraph (3) of
47 subsection a. of this section:

1 (1) upon request from the division or a local law enforcement
2 agency identifying specific ALPR data as evidence of any unlawful
3 conduct enumerated in paragraph (2) of subsection b. of section 3 of
4 this act;

5 (2) upon request from a State government entity identifying
6 specific ALPR data as necessary to retain for collection of an
7 electronic toll pursuant to paragraph (3) of subsection a. of section
8 3 of this act;

9 (3) pursuant to a judicial warrant supported by probable cause or
10 another valid court order;

11 (4) upon receipt of a notarized and sworn preservation request
12 from a State government entity, an out-of-State government entity,
13 or a defendant in a criminal case that identifies the specific
14 automated license plate reader or the license plate number to which
15 the preservation request is related; identifies the date and timeframe
16 to which the retention request applies; and includes language stating
17 the entity or defendant will submit a request to retain the identified
18 data to a court of competent jurisdiction within seven days of the
19 preservation request being notarized.

20 (a) A court of competent jurisdiction may grant a request from a
21 State government entity, an out-of-State government entity, or a
22 criminal defendant to retain data if the entity or defendant offers
23 specific and articulable facts establishing probable cause that the
24 requested ALPR data is relevant and material to an ongoing serious
25 crime or missing person investigation or judicial proceeding.

26 (b) The State government entity, out-of-State government entity,
27 or defendant in a criminal case shall, within 24 hours, notify the
28 Attorney General if:

29 (i) the entity or defendant fails to submit a request to retain the
30 identified ALPR data to a court within seven days of the
31 preservation request being notarized; or

32 (ii) a court of competent jurisdiction denies the entity's or
33 defendant's request to retain the identified ALPR data.

34 (c) The Attorney General shall immediately and permanently
35 delete any data retained pursuant to a preservation request upon
36 receipt of notice from a State government entity, out-of-State
37 government entity, or defendant in a criminal case pursuant to
38 subparagraph (b) of this paragraph.

39 d. (1) Each State government entity that installs an automated
40 license plate reader or permits access to or use of an automated
41 license plate reader or ALPR data pursuant to subsection 3 of this
42 act shall adopt a policy, consistent with this act and any guidelines
43 or directives implemented by the Attorney General pursuant to
44 section 7 of this act, prohibiting the collection of ALPR data outside
45 of the scope of this act; governing installation of automated license
46 plate readers; governing use of and access to automated license
47 plate readers and ALPR data; prohibiting the sharing of ALPR data;
48 and protecting the security of ALPR data.

1 (2) Each State government entity shall conspicuously post the
2 policy adopted pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection on the
3 entity's Internet website.

4
5 5. a. The head of each State government entity that uses or
6 accesses ALPR data shall conduct an annual audit of the entity's
7 use of automated license plate readers and ALPR data.

8 b. During the annual audit, each State government entity that
9 operates an automated license plate reader or uses and accesses
10 ALPR data shall, at minimum, assess or determine:

11 (1) the number of license plates scanned;

12 (2) the access log required pursuant to paragraph (3) of
13 subsection b. of section 4 of this act;

14 (3) whether the entity has complied with the requirements of
15 this act and any guidelines or directives issued by the Attorney
16 General pursuant to section 7 of this act; and

17 (4) whether there were any changes made to the entity's policy,
18 implemented pursuant to subsection d. of section 4 of this act, that
19 impacts privacy interests of individuals in the State.

20 c. In addition to what is provided for in subsection b. of this
21 section, the Superintendent of State Police and the chief of police or
22 other executive head of each local law enforcement agency that
23 operates an automated license plate reader or permits officers to use
24 and access ALPR data shall, at minimum, determine the following
25 during the annual audit:

26 (1) the number of license plate numbers, or partial license plate
27 numbers, included on a "be on the lookout," or BOLO, list
28 maintained solely for use in conjunction with an automated license
29 plate reader; and

30 (2) the number of matches generated by a BOLO list maintained
31 solely for use in conjunction with an automated license plate reader
32 and the number of BOLO matches that resulted in an arrest or
33 prosecution.

34 d. In addition to what is provided for in subsection b. of this
35 act, the Attorney General shall assess during the annual audit the
36 shared data log and retention log required pursuant to paragraph (3)
37 of subsection b. of section 4 of this act to determine, at minimum,
38 the number of times:

39 (1) ALPR data was shared:

40 (a) with an out-of-State government entity;

41 (b) pursuant to a judicial warrant or other court order; and

42 (c) with an ALPR data management system maintained by a
43 State government entity and an ALPR vendor;

44 (2) an officer, employee, agent, contractor, or other individual
45 authorized to act by a State government entity accessed ALPR data
46 on the Statewide ALPR data management system that was collected
47 by another State government entity;

1 (3) a preservation request was received pursuant to paragraph
2 (4) of subsection c. of section 4 of this act;

3 (4) ALPR data was preserved pursuant to paragraph (4) of
4 subsection c. of section 4 of this act, broken down by the number of
5 times ALPR data was retained for a State government entity, an out-
6 of-State government entity, and a defendant in a criminal case; and

7 (5) a court of competent jurisdiction granted a request from a
8 State government entity, an out-of-State government entity, or a
9 criminal defendant to retain data pursuant to subparagraph (a) of
10 paragraph (4) of subsection c. of section 4 of this act.

11 e. The head of each State government entity shall
12 conspicuously post the annual audit results on the entity's Internet
13 website.

14 f. The head of each State government entity shall annually
15 report the results of each annual audit to the Attorney General. The
16 Attorney General shall submit the results of each annual audit, and
17 a summary of the results, to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of
18 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1).

19
20 6. Any ALPR data obtained by a State government entity in
21 violation of this act, and any evidence derived from the ALPR data
22 obtained in violation of this act, shall not be admissible by a State
23 or an out-of-State government entity in any criminal, civil,
24 administrative, or legislative proceeding in this State. Nothing in
25 this section shall be construed to prohibit any party other than a
26 State or an out-of-State government entity from using ALPR data
27 collected in violation of this act in a criminal, a civil, an
28 administrative, or a legislative proceeding.

29
30 7. The Attorney General may, in consultation with the
31 Superintendent of State Police, issue guidelines or directives as
32 necessary to implement this act.

33
34 8. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh
35 month next following the date of enactment.

36 37 38 STATEMENT

39
40 This bill prohibits private use and regulates governmental use of
41 automated license plate readers in New Jersey. Under the bill,
42 "automated license plate reader" means an electronic device that
43 photographs or scans the license plate of a motor vehicle and uses
44 artificial intelligence analytics to identify the license plate;
45 compares it with information contained in a database; and generates
46 derived ALPR data, which includes any data captured or generated
47 by an automated license plate reader.

1 A private individual or entity, other than an ALPR vendor, is
2 prohibited from installing, using, or accessing an automated license
3 plate reader and from using, accessing, or sharing ALPR data under
4 the bill. “ALPR vendor” means a private individual or business,
5 and any subcontractor or other third party engaged by the private
6 individual or business, that sells or contracts to provide an
7 automated license plate reader or a service related to producing,
8 installing, maintaining, or operating an automated license plate
9 reader or ALPR data. The bill requires private individuals and
10 entities to remove and cease use of any installed automated license
11 plate reader and permanently delete any stored ALPR data. The
12 Attorney General may institute a civil action for injunctive relief to
13 enforce the bill’s provisions that regulate private installation and
14 use of automated license plate readers.

15 The bill also regulates the installation of automated license plate
16 readers and the use of, access to, and sharing of ALPR data by
17 government entities. A State government entity may only install an
18 automated license plate reader and permit for the use of or access to
19 an automated license plate reader or ALPR data to regulate the use
20 of a parking facility, control access to a secured area, or collect an
21 electronic toll. The Division of State Police in the Department of
22 Law and Public Safety and a local law enforcement agency may, in
23 addition, install an automated license plate reader and permit for the
24 use of or access to an automated license plate reader or ALPR data
25 in conjunction with a “be on the lookout,” or BOLO, list maintained
26 solely for use with a law enforcement operated automated license
27 plate reader. The bill prohibits a law enforcement agency from
28 installing or using an automated license plate reader that would
29 target certain areas based on certain protected classes.

30 A BOLO list solely used in conjunction with an automated
31 license plate reader may only include the license plate number, or
32 partial license plate number, of a vehicle if the vehicle, or any
33 person reasonably believed to be associated with the vehicle, is
34 material to an investigation into whether the vehicle:

- 35 1) is unregistered or uninsured;
- 36 2) is being operated in violation of State inspection
37 requirements;
- 38 3) is associated with a missing person;
- 39 4) was stolen; or
- 40 5) is related to or was involved in a serious crime, which
41 includes any crime under the No Early Release Act (NERA) and
42 substantially similar crimes under the laws of another state or the
43 United States.

44 Only the Attorney General may share ALPR data, and the
45 Attorney General may only share ALPR with an out-of-State
46 government entity, which includes the federal government and the
47 governments of other states, or an individual pursuant to a judicial

1 warrant supported by probable cause or another valid court order
2 that specifically identifies the data being requested.

3 The bill exempts ALPR data from the disclosure requirements of
4 the open public records act unless certain criteria are met.
5 Additionally, the bill permits a government entity to contract with
6 an ALPR vendor for the installation of an automated license plate
7 reader but specifies that any ALPR data collected is the
8 government's property.

9 Each State government entity is permitted to maintain an ALPR
10 data management system or contract with an ALPR vendor for the
11 creation and maintenance of a system. The Attorney General is
12 required to implement and maintain a Statewide ALPR data
13 management system to centrally store ALPR data collected in the
14 State, facilitate sharing of ALPR data between State government
15 entities, and from which the Attorney General may share ALPR
16 data with out-of-State government entities or individuals. The bill
17 establishes various requirements with which each ALPR data
18 management system is required to comply. The bill also establishes
19 that ALPR data is required to be deleted within two days of the date
20 of collection unless certain criteria and processes are completed to
21 retain the data.

22 Under the bill, the head of each State government entity is
23 required to conduct an annual audit of the entity's use and access to
24 automated license plate readers and ALPR data. The bill
25 establishes minimum criteria that each State government entity is
26 required to assess during the annual audit. Each government entity
27 is also required to post the audit results on its Internet website and
28 submit the results to the Attorney General. The Attorney General
29 then submits each annual audit, including its own, and a summary
30 of the annual audits to the Legislature.

31 Any ALPR data obtained by a State government entity in
32 violation of this act, and any evidence derived from that ALPR data,
33 shall not be admissible by a State or an out-of-State government
34 entity in any criminal, civil, administrative, or legislative
35 proceeding in this State. However, any party other than a
36 government entity may introduce ALPR data collected in violation
37 of this act in a criminal, a civil, an administrative, or a legislative
38 proceeding.