

SENATE, No. 4647

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 1, 2026

Sponsored by:

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER
District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)
Senator ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT
District 31 (Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Requires televisions in places of public accommodation display closed captioning for programming.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/1/2026)

1 AN ACT concerning closed captioning for televisions in places of
2 public accommodation and amending P.L.2026, c.58.

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.2026, c.58 (C.52:1-1.4) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 1. Every television that is located in any portion of a building
10 owned or leased by the State for the use of any State agency or in
11 any portion of a facility defined as a place of public accommodation
12 pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-5) that is available
13 for viewing by members of the public or public employees shall
14 continuously display, during all hours of operation of the building
15 or facility, closed captioning for all programming for which closed
16 captioning is available.

17 As used in this section:

18 “Closed captioning” means the visual display of written words
19 on a television screen of the audio portion of video programming;
20 and

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

28 The provisions of this section shall not apply to any television
29 manufactured prior to the effective date of P.L.2026, c.58 (C.52:1-
30 1.4) that cannot accommodate closed captioning.
31 (cf: P.L.2026, c.58, s.1)

32
33 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

34
35
36 STATEMENT

37
38 This bill amends section 1 of P.L.2026, c.58 (C.52:1-1.4) to
39 expand the requirement that every television located in any portion
40 of a building owned or leased by the State for the use of a State
41 agency that is available for viewing by members of the public or
42 public employees continuously display closed captioning for all
43 programming for which closed captioning is available to also to
44 include any portion of a facility defined as a place of public
45 accommodation pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-5),

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 and that the closed captioning shall be continuously displayed
2 during all hours of operation of the building or facility.

3 Currently, the law's closed captioning mandate only applies to
4 televisions that are located in buildings owned or leased by the
5 State for use as State agencies. This bill would expand the mandate
6 to include televisions located in all facilities defined as places of
7 public accommodation, and would require that closed captioning be
8 continuously displayed during all hours of operation of such
9 buildings or facilities.