

SENATE, No. 4694

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 1, 2026

Sponsored by:

Senator MICHAEL L. TESTA, JR.

District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Diegnan

SYNOPSIS

“Michael Kidd-Gilchrist Driver Communication and Disability Protection Act”; revises and establishes process for designating certain disorders through MVC.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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

1 AN ACT concerning protections for drivers with certain disorders,
2 designated as the “Michael Kidd-Gilchrist Driver Communication
3 and Disability Protection Act,” and amending P.L.2023, c.57.

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

7
8 1. Section 1 of P.L.2023, c.57 (C.39:3-10f8) is amended to read
9 as follows:

10 1. a. The Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle
11 Commission shall allow the holder of a driver’s license or non-driver
12 identification card to indicate that the person has been diagnosed
13 with:

14 (1) an autism spectrum disorder **【or】** ;

15 (2) a communication disorder, which shall include, but not be
16 limited to, stuttering; or

17 (3) Tourette Syndrome.

18 b. Upon request by any person who has been diagnosed with an
19 autism spectrum disorder **【or】** , a communication disorder, or
20 Tourette Syndrome, or by the parent, guardian, or caregiver of the
21 person, and upon submission of any documentation required pursuant
22 to subsection c. of this section, the chief administrator shall indicate
23 the **【autism spectrum disorder or communication disorder】**
24 applicable diagnosis by notating such information on the person’s
25 driver’s license or non-driver identification card under the column
26 designated for restrictions and, for the purposes of communicating
27 with law enforcement officers pursuant to subsection f. of this
28 section, on the person’s motor vehicle registration information.
29 However, the diagnosis notation shall be confined solely to the
30 person’s driver’s license or non-driver identification card, and to the
31 person’s motor vehicle registration information, and shall not require
32 issuance of a secondary document.

33 c. The chief administrator shall, in consultation with the
34 Commissioner of Human Services, establish the documentation
35 required to be produced by a person who has been diagnosed with an
36 autism spectrum disorder **【or】** , a communication disorder, or
37 Tourette Syndrome, or by the parent, guardian, or caregiver of the
38 person, in order to receive **【a driver’s license or non-driver**
39 **identification card with】** the diagnosis notation authorized pursuant
40 to subsection b. of this section.

41 d. The Commissioner of Human Services and the Attorney
42 General, in consultation with the Superintendent of the Division of
43 State Police within the Department of Law and Public Safety and at
44 least one organization that advocates on behalf of persons who have
45 been diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder **【or】** , a

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 communication disorder, or Tourette Syndrome, shall jointly develop
2 guidance to assist law enforcement officers in effectively
3 communicating with a person who has been diagnosed with **[an**
4 **autism spectrum disorder or communication]** any such disorder. The
5 Attorney General shall ensure that a copy of the written guidance,
6 and any other related materials developed to facilitate compliance
7 with the guidance, is distributed to each police department in the
8 State.

9 e. When the chief administrator receives a request for a
10 diagnosis notation pursuant to subsection b. of this section, the chief
11 administrator shall permit the person making the request to submit
12 emergency contact information for the person diagnosed with an
13 autism spectrum disorder, a communication disorder, or Tourette
14 Syndrome.

15 f. The commission shall ensure that law enforcement agencies
16 in the State have access to the diagnosis notation on a person's motor
17 vehicle information, issued pursuant to subsection b. of this section,
18 and any emergency contact information for that person, submitted
19 pursuant to subsection e. of this section, during a traffic stop when a
20 law enforcement officer accesses the motor vehicle's license plate
21 information through the commission's online interface with law
22 enforcement agencies. The information shared with law enforcement
23 agencies pursuant to this subsection shall only be used by law
24 enforcement officers to communicate during a traffic stop with a
25 person diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder, a
26 communication disorder, or Tourette Syndrome.

27 g. The commission may adopt, pursuant to the "Administrative
28 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), rules and
29 regulations as necessary to implement the provisions of this section.
30 (cf: P.L.2023, c.57, s.1)

31
32 2. This act shall take effect on the 180th day after the date of
33 enactment.
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36 STATEMENT

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38 This bill, which is designated as the "Michael Kidd-Gilchrist
39 Driver Communication and Disability Protection Act," amends
40 current law to: revise the process for a person seeking to notate an
41 autism spectrum disorder or a communication disorder diagnosis on
42 a driver's license or non-driver identification card through the New
43 Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (commission); and expand that
44 process to include diagnosis notations for individuals with Tourette
45 Syndrome and to include such diagnosis notations on a person's
46 motor vehicle registration information for the purposes of
47 communicating with law enforcement during traffic stops.
48 Specifically, the bill clarifies that a communication disorder, under

1 current law, is to include stuttering. In addition, the bill provides that
2 the diagnosis notation is to be limited to a person's driver's license
3 or non-driver identification card, and to a person's motor vehicle
4 registration information, and is not to require the issuance of
5 secondary documentation. The bill also requires the commission to
6 permit a person seeking a diagnosis notation to submit emergency
7 contact information for the person diagnosed with an autism
8 spectrum disorder, a communication disorder, or Tourette Syndrome.
9 Under the bill, the emergency contact information, in addition to a
10 person's diagnosis notation on their motor vehicle registration
11 information, is to be accessible to law enforcement during a traffic
12 stop when the law enforcement officer accesses the motor vehicle's
13 license plate information through the commission's online interface
14 with law enforcement agencies. This information is to be exclusively
15 available to law enforcement officers for the purposes of
16 communicating during a traffic stop with a person diagnosed with an
17 autism spectrum disorder, a communication disorder, or Tourette
18 Syndrome.