

SENATE, No. 4760

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 5, 2026

Sponsored by:
Senator ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT
District 31 (Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Concerns administrative fees charged for certain toll violations.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning the administrative fee for certain toll violations,
2 amending P.L.1997, c.59 and P.L.2023, c.7, and supplementing
3 Title 27 of the Revised Statutes.

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

7
8 1. Section 13 of P.L.1997, c.59 (C.27:25A-21.3) is amended to
9 read as follows:

10 13. a. **[If]** Except as otherwise provided in section 4 of
11 P.L.2023, c.7 (C.27:25A-21.8), if a violation of the toll collection
12 monitoring system regulations is committed, as evidenced by a toll
13 collection monitoring system, the authority, or the agent of the
14 authority [may] , shall send an advisory and payment request
15 within [60] 21 days of the date of the violation to the owner of the
16 vehicle by regular mail at the address of record for that owner with
17 the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission or with any other motor
18 vehicle licensing authority of another jurisdiction, providing the
19 owner with the opportunity to resolve the matter prior to the
20 issuance of a summons and complaint that charges a violation of the
21 toll collection monitoring system regulations. The advisory and
22 payment request shall contain sufficient information to inform the
23 owner of: the nature, date, time, and location of the alleged
24 violation; the toll amount due, and the administrative fee, if any,
25 charged pursuant to this subsection; and instructions on how the
26 owner may resolve the matter prior to the issuance of a summons
27 and complaint that charges a violation of the toll collection
28 monitoring system regulations. The authority, or **[its]** an agent of
29 the authority, may require as part of the advisory and payment
30 request that the owner pay to the agent the proper toll and a
31 reasonable administrative fee established by the authority **[and**
32 **based upon the actual cost of processing and collecting the**
33 **violation]** . However, the administrative fee shall not exceed \$15
34 for a toll under \$10 and shall be based on a proportional sliding-
35 scale structure, as determined by the authority, for a toll of \$10 or
36 more.

37 If the owner fails to pay the required toll and fee within 30 days
38 of the date the advisory and payment request was sent, the owner
39 shall be subject to liability on the 31st day following the date the
40 advisory and payment request was sent for the violation of the toll
41 collection monitoring system regulations by the vehicle operator
42 pursuant to the issuance of a complaint and summons.

43 b. An owner of a vehicle who is a lessor of the vehicle used in
44 violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations of the
45 authority shall not be liable for the violation of the regulations if the

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 lessor submits to the authority, in a timely manner, a copy of the
2 rental agreement, lease, or other contract document covering that
3 vehicle on the date of the violation, with the name and address of
4 the lessee clearly legible to the authority and to the court having
5 jurisdiction over the violation. If the lessor fails to provide the
6 information in a timely manner, the lessor shall be held liable for
7 the violation of the regulations. If the lessor provides the required
8 information to the authority, the lessee of the vehicle on the date of
9 the violation shall be deemed to be the owner of the vehicle for the
10 purposes of sections 11 through 15 of P.L.1997, c.59 (C.27:25A-
11 21.1 through C.27:25A-21.5) and the toll collection monitoring
12 system regulations and shall be subject to liability for the violation
13 of the regulations.

14 c. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a certified
15 report of an employee or agent of the authority reporting a violation
16 of the toll collection monitoring system regulations and any
17 information obtained from a toll collection monitoring system shall
18 be available for the exclusive use of the authority and any law
19 enforcement official for the purposes of discharging their duties
20 pursuant to sections 11 through 15 of P.L.1997, c.59 (C.27:25A-
21 21.1 through C.27:25A-21.5) and the toll collection monitoring
22 system regulations. Any such report or information shall not be
23 deemed a public record under P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.) or
24 the common law concerning access to public records. The certified
25 reports and information, including, but not limited to, any recorded
26 image of any motor vehicle, the license plate of any motor vehicle,
27 or the operator or passenger of any motor vehicle, shall not be
28 discoverable as a public record by any person, entity, or
29 governmental agency, except upon a subpoena issued by a grand
30 jury or a court order in a criminal matter, nor shall they be offered
31 in evidence in any civil or administrative proceeding **[,]** not
32 directly related to a violation of the toll collection monitoring
33 system regulations **[,]** or in any municipal court prosecution for a
34 violation of any of the provisions of Title 39 of the Revised
35 Statutes. However, in the event that, notwithstanding the provisions
36 of subsection c. of section 12 of **[this act]** P.L.1997, c.59
37 (C.27:25A-21.2), a recorded image of the face of the operator or
38 any passenger in a motor vehicle is produced by the toll collection
39 monitoring system, that image shall not be used by the authority for
40 any purpose nor shall the image or any record or copy thereof be
41 transmitted or communicated to any person, governmental, non-
42 governmental, or judicial or administrative entity.

43 d. A complaint and summons charging a violation of the toll
44 collection monitoring system regulations shall be on a form
45 prescribed by the Administrative Director of the Courts pursuant to
46 the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey. The
47 authority may authorize by regulation an employee or agent to be a
48 complaining witness to make, sign, and initiate complaints and to

1 issue summonses in the name of the authority on behalf of the State
2 of New Jersey, pursuant to the Rules Governing the Courts of the
3 State of New Jersey. The complaints and summonses may be made
4 on information based upon evidence obtained by a toll collection
5 monitoring system, the toll collection monitoring system record,
6 and the records of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission or of
7 any other state, province, or motor vehicle licensing authority.

8 Service may be made by means provided by the Rules Governing
9 the Courts of the State of New Jersey.

10 Except as provided in subsection c. of this section, the recorded
11 images produced by a toll collection monitoring system shall be
12 considered an official record kept in the ordinary course of business
13 and shall be admissible in a proceeding for a violation of any toll
14 collection monitoring system regulations.

15 e. The municipal court of the municipality wherein a toll
16 collection monitoring system record was made shall have
17 jurisdiction to hear violations of the toll collection monitoring
18 system regulations. Violations shall be enforced and penalties
19 collected pursuant to the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999,"
20 P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.). A proceeding and a
21 judgment arising therefrom shall be pursued and entered in
22 accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.2B:12-1 et seq. and the
23 Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey.

24 In addition to the civil penalty that may be assessed by a court
25 having jurisdiction for a violation of the toll collection monitoring
26 system regulations, a court shall require the defendant to pay the
27 proper toll and shall require the defendant to pay a reasonable
28 administrative fee as established by the authority. Following
29 collection and distribution of the fees set forth in [section 11 of
30 P.L.1953, c.22 (C.22A:3-4)] N.J.S.22A:3-4, any tolls and
31 administrative fees imposed and collected by the court for a
32 violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations shall
33 be promptly remitted to the authority by the court. The civil
34 penalty shall be distributed pursuant to the "Penalty Enforcement
35 Law of 1999," P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.).

36 (cf: P.L.2005, c.62, s.2)

37
38 2. Section 4 of P.L.2023, c.7 (C.27:25A-21.8) is amended to
39 read as follows:

40 4. a. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the
41 contrary, the South Jersey Transportation Authority shall not issue a
42 notice of violation or charge any administrative fees to the owner of
43 a vehicle that travels through a lane at a toll plaza or facility
44 dedicated for the electronic toll collection system [unless] if the
45 authority has [first] determined that:

46 (1) the vehicle is [not] associated with an existing electronic
47 toll collection system account that is connected to a valid method of

1 payment and is associated with an accurate, updated license plate
2 number, as provided in subsection b. of this section; or

3 (2) the owner's alleged failure to pay the toll was caused by a
4 system error, a billing error, equipment failure, a transponder
5 malfunction, or other factors outside of the owner's control.

6 If the vehicle is associated with an existing electronic toll
7 collection system account in accordance with paragraph (1) of this
8 subsection, the authority shall relay the license plate information to
9 the lead agency of the electronic toll collection system for toll
10 payment from the appropriate electronic toll collection system
11 account holder, provided that the account holder shall have the right
12 to dispute any such toll charge.

13 b. An electronic toll collection system account holder shall
14 provide accurate and updated information for the electronic toll
15 collection system account, including updating the license plate
16 numbers associated with the account. If an account holder fails to
17 update the license plate numbers associated with the account, the
18 electronic toll collection system may issue a notice of violation to
19 the account holder for any violation committed and may charge an
20 administrative fee for the violation. The authority shall conduct
21 outreach to encourage account holders to comply with the
22 provisions of this section by maintaining accurate and updated
23 information for electronic toll collection system accounts.

24 (cf: P.L.2023, c.7, s.4)

25
26 3. (New section) a. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or
27 regulation to the contrary, the South Jersey Transportation
28 Authority shall not enter into or renew a contract for administration
29 of the electronic toll collection system unless that contract includes
30 a process to provide an electronic toll collection system account
31 holder the option to:

32 (1) provide prior, express consent to receive text message
33 notifications of a toll violation from the electronic toll collection
34 system; and

35 (2) opt out of receiving text message notifications provided
36 pursuant to paragraph (1) of this section.

37 b. Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to any
38 contract entered into prior to the effective date of P.L. ,
39 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

40
41 4. a. Beginning one year following the effective date of
42 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill),
43 the South Jersey Transportation Authority shall prepare and publish
44 an annual report on the authority's Internet website concerning toll
45 violations processed in the prior calendar year.

46 b. At a minimum, the report required pursuant to subsection a.
47 of this section shall contain information on:

1 (1) the total number of violations of toll collection monitoring
2 system regulations committed, as evidenced by a toll collection
3 monitoring system;

4 (2) the total amount of administrative fees collected by the
5 authority;

6 (3) the average administrative fee collected by the authority; and

7 (4) the actual cost incurred by the authority in collecting and
8 processing the outstanding toll charge and administrative fees,
9 including, but not limited to, any transaction fees paid to the
10 authority's contracted vendor and the percentage share of the
11 administrative fees collected paid to the authority's contracted
12 vendor, if applicable.

13

14 5. Section 8 of P.L.1997, c.59 (C.27:23-34.3) is amended to
15 read as follows:

16 8. a. **【If】** Except as otherwise provided in section 3 of
17 P.L.2023, c.7 (C.27:23-34.8), if a violation of the toll collection
18 monitoring system regulations is committed, as evidenced by a toll
19 collection monitoring system, the authority, or the agent of the
20 authority 【may】 , shall send an advisory and payment request
21 within 【60】 21 days of the date of the violation to the owner of the
22 vehicle by regular mail at the address of record for that owner with
23 the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission or with any other motor
24 vehicle licensing authority of another jurisdiction, providing the
25 owner with the opportunity to resolve the matter prior to the
26 issuance of a summons and complaint that charges a violation of the
27 toll collection monitoring system regulations. The advisory and
28 payment request shall contain sufficient information to inform the
29 owner of: the nature, date, time, and location of the alleged
30 violation; the toll amount due, and the administrative fee, if any,
31 charged pursuant to this subsection; and instructions on how the
32 owner may resolve the matter prior to the issuance of a summons
33 and complaint that charges a violation of the toll collection
34 monitoring system regulations. The authority, or 【its】 an agent of
35 the authority, may require as part of the advisory and payment
36 request that the owner pay to the agent the proper toll and a
37 reasonable administrative fee established by the authority 【and
38 based upon the actual cost of processing and collecting the
39 violation】 . However, the administrative fee shall not exceed \$15
40 for a toll under \$10 and shall be based on a proportional sliding-
41 scale structure, as determined by the authority, for a toll of \$10 or
42 more.

43 If the owner fails to pay the required toll and fee within 30 days
44 of the date the advisory and payment request was sent, the owner
45 shall be subject to liability on the 31st day following the date the
46 advisory and payment request was sent for the violation of the toll

1 collection monitoring system regulations by the vehicle operator
2 pursuant to the issuance of a complaint and summons.

3 b. An owner of a vehicle who is a lessor of the vehicle used in
4 violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations of the
5 authority shall not be liable for the violation of the regulations if the
6 lessor submits to the authority, in a timely manner, a copy of the
7 rental agreement, lease, or other contract document covering that
8 vehicle on the date of the violation, with the name and address of
9 the lessee clearly legible to the authority and to the court having
10 jurisdiction over the violation. If the lessor fails to provide the
11 information in a timely manner, the lessor shall be held liable for
12 the violation of the regulations. If the lessor provides the required
13 information to the authority, the lessee of the vehicle on the date of
14 the violation shall be deemed to be the owner of the vehicle for the
15 purposes of sections 6 through 10 of P.L.1997, c.59 (C.27:23-34.1
16 through C.27:23-34.5) and the toll collection monitoring system
17 regulations and shall be subject to liability for the violation of the
18 regulations.

19 c. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a certified
20 report of an employee or agent of the authority reporting a violation
21 of the toll collection monitoring system regulations and any
22 information obtained from a toll collection monitoring system shall
23 be available for the exclusive use of the authority and any law
24 enforcement official for the purposes of discharging their duties
25 pursuant to sections 6 through 10 of P.L.1997, c.59 (C.27:23-34.1
26 through C.27:23-34.5) and the toll collection monitoring system
27 regulations. Any such report or information shall not be deemed a
28 public record under P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.) or the
29 common law concerning access to public records. The certified
30 reports and information, including but not limited to, any recorded
31 image of any motor vehicle, the license plate of any motor vehicle
32 or the operator or any passenger in any motor vehicle, shall not be
33 discoverable as a public record by any person, entity or
34 governmental agency, except upon a subpoena issued by a grand
35 jury or a court order in a criminal matter, nor shall they be offered
36 in evidence in any civil or administrative proceeding **[,]** not
37 directly related to a violation of the toll collection monitoring
38 system regulations **[,]** or in any municipal court prosecution for a
39 violation of any of the provisions of Title 39 of the Revised
40 Statutes. However, in the event that, notwithstanding the provisions
41 of subsection c. of section 7 of **[this act]** P.L.1997, c.59 (C.27:23-
42 34.2), a recorded image of the face of the operator or any passenger
43 in a motor vehicle is produced by the toll collection monitoring
44 system, that image shall not be used by the authority for any
45 purpose nor shall the image or any record or copy thereof be
46 transmitted or communicated to any person, governmental, non-
47 governmental, or judicial or administrative entity.

1 d. A complaint and summons charging a violation of the toll
2 collection monitoring system regulations shall be on a form
3 prescribed by the Administrative Director of the Courts pursuant to
4 the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey. The
5 authority may authorize by regulation an employee or agent to be a
6 complaining witness to make, sign, and initiate complaints and to
7 issue summonses in the name of the authority on behalf of the State
8 of New Jersey, pursuant to the Rules Governing the Courts of the
9 State of New Jersey. The complaints and summonses may be made
10 on information based upon evidence obtained by a toll collection
11 monitoring system, the toll collection monitoring system record and
12 the records of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission or of any
13 other state, province, or motor vehicle licensing authority.

14 Service may be made by means provided by the Rules Governing
15 the Courts of the State of New Jersey.

16 Except as provided in subsection c. of this section, the recorded
17 images produced by a toll collection monitoring system shall be
18 considered an official record kept in the ordinary course of business
19 and shall be admissible in a proceeding for a violation of any toll
20 collection monitoring system regulations.

21 e. The municipal court of the municipality wherein a toll
22 collection monitoring system record was made shall have
23 jurisdiction to hear violations of the toll collection monitoring
24 system regulations. Violations shall be enforced and penalties
25 collected pursuant to the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999,"
26 P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.). A proceeding and a
27 judgment arising therefrom shall be pursued and entered in
28 accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.2B:12-1 et seq. and the
29 Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey.

30 In addition to the civil penalty that may be assessed by a court
31 having jurisdiction for a violation of the toll collection monitoring
32 system regulations, a court shall require the defendant to pay the
33 proper toll and shall require the defendant to pay a reasonable
34 administrative fee as determined by the authority. Following
35 collection and distribution of the fees set forth in [section 11 of
36 P.L.1953, c.22 (C.22A:3-4)] N.J.S.22A:3-4, any tolls and
37 administrative fees imposed and collected by the court for a
38 violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations shall
39 be promptly remitted to the authority by the court. The civil
40 penalty shall be distributed pursuant to the "Penalty Enforcement
41 Law of 1999," P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.).

42 (cf: P.L.2005, c.62, s.1)

43

44 6. Section 3 of P.L.2023, c.7 (C.27:23-34.8) is amended to read
45 as follows:

46 3. a. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the
47 contrary, the New Jersey Turnpike Authority shall not issue a notice
48 of violation or charge any administrative fees to the owner of a

1 vehicle that travels through a lane at a toll plaza or facility
2 dedicated for the electronic toll collection system **【unless】** if the
3 authority has **【first】** determined that:

4 (1) the vehicle is **【not】** associated with an existing electronic
5 toll collection system account that is connected to a valid method of
6 payment and is associated with an accurate, updated license plate
7 number, as provided in subsection b. of this section; or

8 (2) the owner's alleged failure to pay the toll was caused by a
9 system error, a billing error, equipment failure, a transponder
10 malfunction, or other factors outside of the owner's control.

11 If the vehicle is associated with an existing electronic toll
12 collection system account in accordance with paragraph (1) of this
13 subsection, the authority shall relay the license plate information to
14 the lead agency of the electronic toll collection system for toll
15 payment from the appropriate electronic toll collection system
16 account holder, provided that the account holder shall have the right
17 to dispute any such toll charge.

18 b. An electronic toll collection system account holder shall
19 provide accurate and updated information for the electronic toll
20 collection system account, including updating the license plate
21 numbers associated with the account. If an account holder fails to
22 update the license plate numbers associated with the account, the
23 electronic toll collection system may issue a notice of violation to
24 the account holder for any violation committed and may charge an
25 administrative fee for the violation. The authority shall conduct
26 outreach to encourage account holders to comply with the
27 provisions of this section by maintaining accurate and updated
28 information for electronic toll collection system accounts.

29 (cf: P.L.2023, c.7, s.3)

30
31 7. (New section) a. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or
32 regulation to the contrary, the New Jersey Turnpike Authority shall
33 not enter into or renew a contract for administration of the
34 electronic toll collection system unless that contract includes a
35 process to provide an electronic toll collection system account
36 holder the option to:

37 (1) provide prior, express consent to receive text message
38 notifications of a toll violation from the electronic toll collection
39 system; and

40 (2) opt out of receiving text message notifications provided
41 pursuant to paragraph (1) of this section.

42 b. Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to any
43 contract entered into prior to the effective date of P.L. ,
44 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

45
46 8. (New section) a. Beginning one year following the effective
47 date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this
48 bill), the New Jersey Turnpike Authority shall prepare and publish

1 an annual report on the authority's Internet website concerning toll
2 violations processed in the prior calendar year.

3 b. At a minimum, the report required pursuant to subsection a.
4 of this section shall contain information on:

5 (1) the total number of violations of toll collection monitoring
6 system regulations committed, as evidenced by a toll collection
7 monitoring system;

8 (2) the total amount of administrative fees collected by the
9 authority;

10 (3) the average administrative fee collected by the authority; and

11 (4) the actual cost incurred by the authority in collecting and
12 processing the outstanding toll charge and administrative fees,
13 including, but not limited to, any transaction fees paid to the
14 authority's contracted vendor and the percentage share of the
15 administrative fees collected paid to the authority's contracted
16 vendor, if applicable.

17
18 9. This act shall take effect on the first day of the third month
19 next following the date of enactment. However, the New Jersey
20 Turnpike Authority and the South Jersey Transportation Authority
21 may take any anticipatory administrative action in advance as shall
22 be necessary for the implementation of this act.

23 24 25 STATEMENT

26
27 This bill concerns the administrative fees charged for certain toll
28 violations.

29 Under current law, the New Jersey Turnpike Authority and the
30 South Jersey Transportation Authority (collectively, the
31 "authorities") are authorized to send an owner of a vehicle (owner)
32 an advisory and payment request within 60 days of the date of a
33 violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations
34 (violation) evidenced by a toll collection monitoring system. The
35 advisory and payment request is required to contain sufficient
36 information to inform the owner of the nature, date, time and
37 location of the alleged violation. However, current law prohibits
38 the authorities from issuing the advisory and payment request or
39 charging the owner a reasonable administrative fee for a violation if
40 the authorities determine the owner has an existing electronic toll
41 collection system account.

42 The bill requires the authorities to send an owner an advisory and
43 payment request within 21 days of the date of a violation. Under
44 the bill, the advisory and payment request is to contain the toll
45 amount due and the administrative fee charged and instructions on
46 how the owner may resolve the matter prior to the issuance of a
47 summons and complaint that charges a violation, in addition to the
48 information required by statute.

1 The bill also restricts the administrative fee established by the
2 authorities, pursuant to current law, to \$15 for a toll under \$10 and
3 requires the administrative fee to be based on a proportional sliding-
4 scale structure, as determined by the authorities, for a toll of \$10 or
5 more. The bill further amends current law to prohibit the
6 authorities from issuing a notice of violation or charging
7 administrative fees to the owner if the authorities determine: (1) the
8 vehicle used to commit the alleged violation is associated with an
9 existing electronic toll collection system account that is connected
10 to a valid method of payment and is associated with an accurate,
11 updated license plate number; or (2) the owner's alleged failure to
12 pay the toll was caused by a system error, a billing error, equipment
13 failure, a transponder malfunction, or other factors outside of the
14 owner's control.

15 In addition, the bill prohibits the authorities from entering into or
16 renewing a contract for administration of the electronic toll
17 collection system unless that contract includes a process to provide
18 an electronic toll collection system account holder the option to:
19 (1) provide prior, express consent to receive text message
20 notifications of a toll violation from the electronic toll collection
21 system; and (2) opt out of receiving the text message notifications.
22 The bill clarifies that this prohibition is not to be construed to apply
23 to any contract entered into prior to the effective date of the bill.

24 Finally, the bill requires the authorities, beginning one year
25 following the effective date of the bill, to prepare and publish an
26 annual report on the authorities' Internet websites concerning toll
27 violations processed in the prior calendar year, as outlined in the
28 bill.