

27:1A-73 and 27:1A-74 10/21/87

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 27:1A-73 and 27:1A-74 (Public transportation-- handicapped-- escort rides for free)

CHAPTER 99

Laws Of: 1987

Bill No: S1598

Sponsor(s): Codey

Date Introduced: February 3, 1986

Committee: Assembly: Appropriations; Transportation, Communications and High Technology

Senate: Transportation and Communications

Amended during passage: Yes Substituted for A3708 (not attached since identical to S1598). Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks.

Date of Passage: Assembly: March 9, 1987

Senate: April 21, 1986

Date of Approval: April 13, 1987

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes

Committee statement: Assembly Yes 3-5-87 and 6-23-86

Senate Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on Signing: No

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

Regulations, mentioned in committee statements: not promulgated as of 10-1-87.

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SENATE, No. 1598**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 3, 1986

By Senator CODEY

Referred to Committee on Transportation and Communications

AN ACT providing for free transportation in certain cases and supplementing P. L. 1973, c. 126 (C. 27:1A-64 et seq.).

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of P. L. 1973, c. 126 (C.
2 27:1A-64 et seq.) or any other law to the contrary, a handicapped
3 citizen and the citizen's travel attendant or guide shall be trans-
4 ported by any motorbus or rail carrier operated pursuant to the
5 "New Jersey Public Transportation Act of 1979," P. L. 1979, c. 150
6 (C. 27:25-1 et seq.) at the ***[usual and ordinary]*** fare charged to
7 one ***[person]*** **handicapped citizen** during peak or offpeak
8 times, as the case may be. For the purposes of this section, a
9 "handicapped citizen" is one defined pursuant to section 2 of P. L.
10 1973, c. 126 (C. 27:1A-65) who requires the assistance of a travel
11 attendant or guide in order to use public transportation.

1 2. The Commissioner of Transportation shall, after consulting
2 with other relevant departments and agencies, adopt reasonable
3 regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of this act pursuant
4 to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P. L. 1968, c. 410 (C.
5 52:14B-1 et seq.). The regulations shall include a procedure by
6 which the commissioner shall issue an identification card, upon
7 certification of a physician or upon certification of another person
8 as prescribed by the commissioner, that a handicapped citizen
9 requires the assistance of a travel attendant or guide in order to
10 use public transportation.

1 3. This act shall take effect 30 days following enactment.

**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 printed in italics thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in asterisks or stars has been adopted as follows:

***—Senate committee amendments adopted March 6, 1986.**

TRANSPORTATION—AIR, RAIL, BUS, TRUCKS

Permits a handicapped citizen needing assistance from a travel attendant or guide for public bus or rail transportation to be transported with the attendant or guide at the usual fare for one citizen.

STATEMENT

This bill provides that a handicapped citizen who requires a travel attendant or guide in order to use public rail or bus transportation shall be transported with his travel attendant or guide at the usual and ordinary fare charged to one citizen during peak or offpeak times, as the case may be.

This bill applies to all handicapped citizens defined pursuant to P. L. 1973, c. 126 (C. 27:1A-64 et seq.), including blind persons, who travel rail and bus carriers directly operated or subsidized by the New Jersey Transit Corporation.

In addition, the bill requires the Commissioner of Transportation to consult with relevant departments and agencies before issuing regulations. These regulations are to include a procedure by which the commissioner is to issue an identification card, upon certification of a physician or upon certification of another person as prescribed by the commissioner.

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A1598 (1987)

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1598

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 5, 1987

The Assembly Appropriations Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 1598 (OCR).

Senate Bill No. 1598 (OCR) provides for a handicapped person, requiring a travel attendant or guide in order to use public rail or bus transportation, shall only be charged the fare for one handicapped person during peak or off-peak hours. The Commissioner of Transportation shall adopt the necessary regulations which are to include issuance of an identification card with certification that assistance is required of a travel attendant or guide. This bill confirms the current policy of New Jersey Transit towards handicapped persons.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Allowing a travel attendant or guide to accompany a handicapped person should not increase the costs to N. J. Transit, although there is, in theory, minimal foregone revenue.

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS
AND HIGH TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
SENATE, No. 1598

[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 23, 1986

The Assembly Transportation, Communications and High Technology Committee reports Senate Bill No. 1598 (OCR) favorably.

This bill provides that a handicapped citizen who requires a travel attendant or guide in order to use public rail or bus transportation shall be transported with his travel attendant or guide at the fare charged to one handicapped citizen during peak or offpeak times, as the case may be. At present, a handicapped citizen is charged full fare while travelling during peak hours and one-half fare while travelling during offpeak times.

This bill applies to all handicapped citizens defined pursuant to P. L. 1973, c. 126 (C. 27:1A-64 et seq.), including blind persons, who travel on rail and bus carriers directly operated or subsidized by the New Jersey Transit Corporation.

In addition, the bill requires the Commissioner of Transportation to consult with relevant departments and agencies before issuing regulations. These regulations are to include a procedure by which the commissioner is to issue an identification card, upon certification of a physician or upon certification of another person as prescribed by the commissioner.

As used in this bill, "handicapped citizen" means any individual who, by reason of illness, injury, age, congenital malfunction, or other permanent or temporary incapacity of disability, is unable without special facilities or special planning or design to utilize mass transportation facilities and services as effectively as persons who are not so affected.

"Offpeak times" means the hours from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. during the weekdays, and all day on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

SENATE TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1598

with Senate committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 6, 1986

The Senate Transportation and Communications Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1598 with Senate committee amendments.

This amended bill provides that a handicapped citizen who requires a travel attendant or guide in order to use public rail or bus transportation shall be transported with his travel attendant or guide at the fare charged to one handicapped citizen during peak or offpeak times, as the case may be.

This bill applies to all handicapped citizens defined pursuant to P. L. 1973, c. 126 (C. 27:1A-64 et seq.), including blind persons, who travel on rail and bus carriers directly operated or subsidized by the New Jersey Transit Corporation.

In addition, the bill requires the Commissioner of Transportation to consult with relevant departments and agencies before issuing regulations. These regulations are to include a procedure by which the commissioner is to issue an identification card, upon certification of a physician or upon certification of another person as prescribed by the commissioner.

The committee amended the bill to make clear that the handicapped citizen and guide would travel at the fare charged to one handicapped citizen, which is presently full fare during peak hours and one-half fare during offpeak hours.

This bill confirms New Jersey Transit's current practice of providing that a handicapped citizen and guide shall travel at the fare, whether peak or offpeak, charged to one handicapped citizen.