

2A:171-5.19 to 2A:171-5.21

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 2A:171-5.19 to 2A:171-5.21

(Sunday sales--  
allow referen-  
dum in certain  
First class  
cities)

LAWS OF: 1984

CHAPTER: 160

Bill No: S2243

Sponsor(s): Russo and others

Date Introduced: September 20, 1984

Committee: Assembly: /////

Senate: /////

Amended during passage: No

Date of Passage: Assembly: Sept. 20, 1984

Senate: Sept. 20, 1984

Date of Approval: Oct. 11, 1984

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes

Committee statement: Assembly No

Senate No

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on Signing: Yes

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

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SENATE, No. 2243

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 20, 1984

By Senators RUSSO, ORECHIO, DiFRANCESCO, O'CONNOR  
and VAN WAGNER

(Without Reference)

AN ACT concerning Sunday sales in cities of the first class and  
supplementing P. L. 1959, c. 119 (C. 2A:171-5.8 et seq.).

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

1 1. If in any city of the first class located within any county in  
2 which, by referendum of the voters therein, the provisions of P. L.  
3 1959, c. 119 (C. 2A:171-5.8 et seq.) prohibiting Sunday sales apply,  
4 there shall be filed with the city clerk a petition signed by not less  
5 than 2,500 registered voters of the city requesting that there shall  
6 be submitted to the voters of the city the question of whether the  
7 provisions of P. L. 1959, c. 119 shall apply within the city, the  
8 question shall be submitted to the legal voters of the city at the  
9 next general election succeeding the thirtieth day following the  
10 date of the filing of the petition in the manner and form as pro-  
11 vided in section 2 of this act.

1 2. There shall be printed on each official ballot to be used at the  
2 election authorized by section 1 of this act, the following:

3 If you favor the provision printed below, make a cross (X), plus  
4 (+) or check (✓) in the square opposite the word "Yes." If you  
5 are opposed thereto, make a cross (X), plus (+) or check (✓) in  
6 the square opposite the word "No."

	Yes.	Shall Sunday sales be permitted in this city?
	No.	

7 In any city in which voting machines are used, the question shall  
8 be placed upon the official ballots to be used upon the voting ma-  
9 chines without the foregoing instructions to the voters and shall  
10 be voted upon by the use of such machines without marking as  
11 aforesaid.

1 3. If at the election at which the question set forth in section 2  
2 of this act is submitted, the majority of all votes cast, both for and  
3 against the question, in the city, shall be cast in favor of the  
4 question, the provisions of P. L. 1959, c. 119 (C. 2A:171-5.8 et seq.)  
5 shall be inoperative in that city, but if a majority of such votes  
6 shall be cast against the question, the provisions of P. L. 1959,  
7 c. 119 shall remain operative.

1 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### STATEMENT

This bill allows cities of the first class located within counties that have adopted the provisions of P. L. 1959, c. 119 prohibiting Sunday sales, to conduct a referendum within the city to determine if the law prohibiting Sunday sales should be inoperative within the city. Cities of the first class are defined by N. J. S. 40A:6-4 as those having a population of more than 150,000. There are presently two cities in the State which meet the population criteria for a city of the first class, Newark and Jersey City. Each has a population larger than nine of the State's 21 counties. The uniqueness of cities of the first class and the magnitude of their economic problems, requires that the residents be allowed to decide the question of Sunday sales themselves, rather than have it decided for them by the voters of other municipalities within the county that have long ago divorced themselves from the problems of these large urban centers.

S 2243 (1984)



# OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## NEWS RELEASE

CN-001  
Contact: CARL GOLDEN  
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TRENTON, N.J. 08625  
Release: MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 19

Governor Thomas H. Kean today signed legislation to clear the way for a municipal referendum in Jersey City to permit voters there to determine if City business establishments should be exempt from the Sunday closing law.

The bill, S-2243, was sponsored by Senate Majority Leader John Russo, D-Ocean.

The legislation requires that, upon petition of 2,500 registered voters in Jersey City, the question of retaining the Sunday closing law in the City will appear on the November 6 General Election ballot.

The Governor said he would have preferred that the Legislature approve a bill to give all municipalities the right of referendum in counties where the Sunday closing law is in force.

"The Legislature, however, chose to limit this bill to a single municipality," the Governor said. "In view of that, it is appropriate for the citizens and voters of Jersey City to decide for themselves whether the community should retain the closing law."

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