

App.A:9-43.15
LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST
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LAWS OF: 2013 **CHAPTER:** 265

NJSA: App.A:9-43.15 (Permits pet owners to board public transportation with domesticated animals during emergency evacuation)

BILL NO: A3445 (Substituted for S1804)

SPONSOR(S) Quijano and others

DATE INTRODUCED: November 19, 2012

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** Agriculture and Natural Resources

SENATE: ---

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE: **ASSEMBLY:** January 13, 2014

SENATE: January 13, 2014

DATE OF APPROVAL: January 17, 2014

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (Second reprint enacted) Yes

A3445

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 4 of introduced bill) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** Yes

SENATE: No

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

S1804

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 4 of introduced bill) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** No

SENATE: Yes

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

(continued)

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: No

LAW/KR

P.L.2013, CHAPTER 265, *approved January 17, 2014*
Assembly, No. 3445 (*Second Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning emergency evacuation, supplementing chapter 9
2 of Appendix A, and amending P.L.1964, c.64.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. (New section) a. For the purposes of this act:
8 “Domestic companion animal” means ²[a dog, cat, bird, fish
9 or]² any animal commonly referred to as a pet ²[¹which does not
10 constitute a health or safety hazard and¹]² that ¹[has been] was¹
11 bought, bred, raised or otherwise acquired, in accordance with local
12 ordinances and State and federal law ¹,¹ for the primary purpose of
13 providing companionship ²to the owner², rather than for ²[an]
14 business or² agricultural ²[purpose] purposes. “Domestic
15 companion animal” does not include livestock as defined in
16 N.J.A.C. 2:2-1.1².

17 “Public transportation or public transportation service” means
18 rail passenger service, motorbus regular route service, paratransit
19 service, motorbus charter service, and ferry passenger service as
20 defined in section 3 of P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-3).

21 b. In the event that a state of emergency has been declared and
22 an evacuation of any region of the State is in progress, the owner of
23 a domestic companion animal shall be permitted to board any public
24 transportation or public transportation service with the domestic
25 companion animal so long as that animal is under the owner’s
26 control by use of a leash or tether, or is properly confined in an
27 appropriate container or by other suitable means ², provided that
28 such boarding is authorized by and consistent with the provisions of
29 the State Emergency Operations Plan developed pursuant to
30 paragraph (1) of subsection a. of section 18 of P.L.1989, c.222
31 (C.App.A.:9-43.1) pertaining to the needs of animals and
32 individuals with an animal under their care². The provisions of this
33 act shall only apply to the owners of domestic companion animals
34 who are evacuating from a region of the State affected by the
35 emergency or local disaster emergency as defined in section 3 of
36 P.L.1953, c. 438 (C.App.A:9-33.1). ²A domestic companion animal

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AAN committee amendments adopted March 14, 2013.

²Assembly amendments adopted in accordance with Governor's recommendations January 13, 2014.

1 may be refused permission to board any public transportation or
2 public transportation service, even if the animal is under the
3 owner's control or properly confined in accordance with this
4 subsection if there is reasonable cause to believe that, due to
5 attendant circumstances, permitting the animal to board would pose
6 a health or safety hazard.

7 c. All passengers with service animals shall be given priority
8 seating on all means of transportation regulated by this act in
9 accordance with the federal "Americans with Disabilities Act of
10 1990" (42 U.S.C. s.12101 et seq.). For the purposes of this act,
11 "service animal" shall have the same meaning as set forth in the
12 federal "Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990" (42 U.S.C.
13 s.12101 et seq.) and any regulations under the act.²

14 ²[c.] d.² All passengers on any public transportation or public
15 transportation service shall be provided seating before a domestic
16 companion animal may be placed in a seat.¹

17
18 2. Section 1 of P.L.1964, c.64 (C.32:1-146.8) is amended to
19 read as follows:

20 1. The Port ¹Authority¹ of New York ¹Authority ¹and New
21 Jersey¹ (hereinafter called the "Port Authority") having duly
22 adopted the following rules and regulations, hereinafter set forth in
23 this section, in relation to conduct within the territorial limits of the
24 State of New Jersey and at, on or in the Hudson Tubes and Hudson
25 Tubes extensions operated by its wholly-owned subsidiary the Port
26 Authority Trans-Hudson Corporation (hereinafter called "PATH"),
27 the penalties and procedures for their enforcement prescribed in
28 section 2 shall apply to violations thereof.

30 RULES AND REGULATIONS

31 (1) No person shall smoke, carry or possess a lighted cigarette,
32 cigar, pipe, match or any lighted instrument causing naked flame in
33 or about any area, building or appurtenance or in any cars or other
34 rolling stock of the Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions
35 where smoking has been prohibited by PATH and where
36 appropriate signs to that effect have been posted.

37 (2) No person, unless duly authorized by PATH, shall in or upon
38 any area, building, appurtenance, car or other rolling stock of the
39 Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions sell or offer for sale any
40 article of merchandise or solicit any business or trade, including the
41 carrying of bags for hire, the shining of shoes or bootblackening, or
42 shall entertain any persons by singing, dancing or playing any
43 musical instrument or solicit alms. No person, unless duly
44 authorized by PATH, shall post, distribute or display commercial
45 signs, circulars or other printed or written matter in or upon the
46 Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions.

47 (3) No person, who is unable to give satisfactory explanation of
48 his presence, shall loiter about any car, or other rolling stock, area,

1 building or appurtenance of the Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes
2 extensions, or sleep therein or thereon.

3 (4) No person not authorized by PATH shall be permitted in or
4 upon any car or other rolling stock or station or platform or parking
5 facility within the Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions,
6 except upon payment in full of such fares, fees and other charges as
7 may from time to time be prescribed by PATH. No person shall
8 refuse to pay or evade or attempt to evade the payment in full of
9 such fares, fees and other charges.

10 (5) No person shall spit upon, litter or create a nuisance or other
11 insanitary condition in or on any car or other rolling stock, area,
12 building or appurtenance of the Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes
13 extensions.

14 (6) **[No]** Except as provided under section 1 of
15 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), no
16 person shall enter any car or other rolling stock, area, building or
17 appurtenance of the Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions
18 with any animal, except an animal properly confined in an
19 appropriate container or a guide dog properly harnessed and
20 muzzled, accompanying a blind person carrying a certificate of
21 identification issued by a guide dog school.

22 (7) No person shall get on any car or other rolling stock of the
23 Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions while it is in motion for
24 the purpose of obtaining transportation thereon as a passenger nor
25 shall any person willfully obstruct, hinder or delay the passage of
26 any such car or rolling stock. No person not authorized by PATH
27 shall walk upon or along any right-of-way or related trackage of the
28 Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions.

29 (cf: P.L.1964, c.64, s.1)

30

31 3. This act shall take effect immediately ¹, provided section 2
32 shall remain inoperative until the enactment into law of legislation
33 substantially similar by the State of New York, but if such
34 legislation has already been enacted, section 2 of this act shall take
35 effect immediately¹.

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40 Permits pet owners to board public transportation with
41 domesticated animals during emergency evacuation.

ASSEMBLY, No. 3445

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 215th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 19, 2012

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO

District 20 (Union)

Assemblywoman CONNIE WAGNER

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Permits pet owners to board public transportation with domesticated animals during emergency evacuation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/14/2012)

1 AN ACT concerning emergency evacuation, supplementing chapter 9
2 of Appendix A, and amending P.L.1964, c.64.

3

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

6

7 1. (New section) a. For the purposes of this act:

8 "Domestic companion animal" means a dog, cat, bird, fish or any
9 animal commonly referred to as a pet that has been bought, bred,
10 raised or otherwise acquired, in accordance with local ordinances
11 and State and federal law for the primary purpose of providing
12 companionship, rather than for an agricultural purpose.

13 "Public transportation or public transportation service" means
14 rail passenger service, motorbus regular route service, paratransit
15 service, motorbus charter service, and ferry passenger service as
16 defined in section 3 of P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-3).

17 b. In the event that a state of emergency has been declared and
18 an evacuation of any region of the State is in progress, the owner of
19 a domestic companion animal shall be permitted to board any public
20 transportation or public transportation service with the domestic
21 companion animal so long as that animal is under the owner's
22 control by use of a leash or tether, or is properly confined in an
23 appropriate container or by other suitable means. The provisions of
24 this act shall only apply to the owners of domestic companion
25 animals who are evacuating from a region of the State affected by
26 the emergency or local disaster emergency as defined in section 3 of
27 P.L.1953, c. 438 (C.App.A:9-33.1).

28

29 2. Section 1 of P.L.1964, c.64 (C.32:1-146.8) is amended to
30 read as follows:

31 1. The Port of New York Authority (hereinafter called the
32 "Port Authority") having duly adopted the following rules and
33 regulations, hereinafter set forth in this section, in relation to
34 conduct within the territorial limits of the State of New Jersey and
35 at, on or in the Hudson Tubes and Hudson Tubes extensions
36 operated by its wholly-owned subsidiary the Port Authority Trans-
37 Hudson Corporation (hereinafter called "PATH"), the penalties
38 and procedures for their enforcement prescribed in section 2 shall
39 apply to violations thereof.

40 **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

41 (1) No person shall smoke, carry or possess a lighted cigarette,
42 cigar, pipe, match or any lighted instrument causing naked flame in
43 or about any area, building or appurtenance or in any cars or other
44 rolling stock of the Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions
45 where smoking has been prohibited by PATH and where

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 appropriate signs to that effect have been posted.

2 (2) No person, unless duly authorized by PATH, shall in or upon
3 any area, building, appurtenance, car or other rolling stock of the
4 Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions sell or offer for sale any
5 article of merchandise or solicit any business or trade, including the
6 carrying of bags for hire, the shining of shoes or bootblacking, or
7 shall entertain any persons by singing, dancing or playing any
8 musical instrument or solicit alms. No person, unless duly
9 authorized by PATH, shall post, distribute or display commercial
10 signs, circulars or other printed or written matter in or upon the
11 Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions.

12 (3) No person, who is unable to give satisfactory explanation of
13 his presence, shall loiter about any car, or other rolling stock, area,
14 building or appurtenance of the Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes
15 extensions, or sleep therein or thereon.

16 (4) No person not authorized by PATH shall be permitted in or
17 upon any car or other rolling stock or station or platform or parking
18 facility within the Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions,
19 except upon payment in full of such fares, fees and other charges as
20 may from time to time be prescribed by PATH. No person shall
21 refuse to pay or evade or attempt to evade the payment in full of
22 such fares, fees and other charges.

23 (5) No person shall spit upon, litter or create a nuisance or other
24 insanitary condition in or on any car or other rolling stock, area,
25 building or appurtenance of the Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes
26 extensions.

27 (6) ~~【No】~~ Except as provided under section 1 of P.L. _____,
28 c. (C. _____) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), no person
29 shall enter any car or other rolling stock, area, building or
30 appurtenance of the Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions
31 with any animal, except an animal properly confined in an
32 appropriate container or a guide dog properly harnessed and
33 muzzled, accompanying a blind person carrying a certificate of
34 identification issued by a guide dog school.

35 (7) No person shall get on any car or other rolling stock of the
36 Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions while it is in motion for
37 the purpose of obtaining transportation thereon as a passenger nor
38 shall any person willfully obstruct, hinder or delay the passage of
39 any such car or rolling stock. No person not authorized by PATH
40 shall walk upon or along any right-of-way or related trackage of the
41 Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions.

42 (cf: P.L.1964, c.64, s.1)

43

44 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

1 STATEMENT

2

3 This bill allows pet owners to board public transportation with
4 any pet in the event that a state of emergency has been declared and
5 an evacuation is in progress. The bill characterizes the term “pet”
6 as a “domestic companion animal” which is defined as a dog, cat,
7 bird, fish or any animal commonly referred to as a pet that has been
8 bought, bred, raised or otherwise acquired for the primary purpose
9 of providing companionship, rather than for agricultural purposes.
10 The bill permits the pet owner to board public transportation so
11 long as the animal is under the owner’s control by use of a leash or
12 tether, or is properly confined in an appropriate container or by
13 other suitable means.

ASSEMBLY AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3445

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 14, 2013

The Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 3445.

This bill, as amended, allows pet owners to board public transportation with any pet in the event that a state of emergency has been declared and an evacuation is in progress. The bill, as amended, characterizes the term “pet” as a “domestic companion animal” which:

1) is defined as a dog, cat, bird, fish or any animal commonly referred to as a pet that has been bought, bred, raised or otherwise acquired for the primary purpose of providing companionship, rather than for agricultural purposes; and

2) does not constitute a health or safety hazard.

The bill, as amended, permits the pet owner and the pet to board public transportation so long as the animal is under the owner’s control by use of a leash or tether or is properly confined in an appropriate container or by other suitable means. The bill, as amended, requires all passengers to be provided seating before a domestic companion animal is placed in a seat. Finally, the bill, as amended, provides that section 2 of the bill would not take effect until the State of New York enacts substantially similar legislation.

The bill, as amended, is identical to Senate Bill No. 1804 (1R) as it was reported from the Senate Law and Public Safety Committee on November 19, 2012, with amendments.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amendments:

1) specify that the domestic companion animal must not constitute a health or safety hazard;

2) require all passengers to be provided seating before a domestic companion animal is placed in a seat;

- 3) revise the effective date of section 2 of the bill to reflect the need for the State of New York to enact substantially similar legislation; and
- 4) make a technical corrections.

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 3445
(First Reprint)

To the General Assembly:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Assembly Bill No. 3445 (First Reprint) with my recommendations for reconsideration.

This bill provides that a pet owner may board public transportation with their pet when a state of emergency has been declared and an evacuation is in progress, provided that the pet does not constitute a health or safety hazard. The bill requires that the animal be under the owner's control by use of a leash or tether, or properly confined in an appropriate container or by other suitable means.

Pets are important to many families, and protecting pets during a state of emergency is a laudable goal. Current State and local emergency evacuation plans, however, already are required to address the needs of animals and, therefore, the evacuation of pets via public transportation should be consistent with those plans. Also, although the bill indicates that an animal should not be permitted to board public transportation if the animal causes a health or safety hazard, the bill does not establish a standard for refusing boarding. Finally, the bill should make clear that passengers with service animals shall be given priority seating in accordance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Therefore, I herewith return Assembly Bill No. 3445 (First Reprint) and recommend that it be amended as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <u>Page 2, Section 1, Line 8:</u> | Delete "a dog, cat, bird, fish or" |
| <u>Page 2, Section 1, Lines 9-10:</u> | Delete "which does not constitute a health or safety hazard" |
| <u>Page 2, Section 1, Line 13:</u> | After "companionship" insert "to the owner" |

- Page 2, Section 1, Line 13: Delete "an" and insert "business or"
- Page 2, Section 1, Line 13: Delete "purpose" and insert "purposes. Domestic companion animal does not include livestock as defined in N.J.A.C. 2:2-1.1"
- Page 2, Section 1, Line 24: After "means" insert ", provided that such boarding is authorized by and consistent with the provisions of the State of Emergency Operation Plans developed pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection a. of section 18 of P.L.1989, c.222 (C.App.A.:9-43.1) pertaining to the needs of animals and individuals with an animal under their care"
- Page 2, Section 1, Line 28: After "(C.App.A:9-33.1)." insert "A domestic companion animal may be refused permission to board any public transportation or public transportation service, even if the animal is under the owner's control or properly confined in accordance with this subsection if there is reasonable cause to believe that, due to attendant circumstances, permitting the animal to board would pose a health or safety hazard.
c. All passengers with service animals shall be given priority seating on all means of transportation regulated by this act in accordance with the federal "Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990" (42 U.S.C. s.12101 et seq.). For the purposes of this act, service animal shall have the same meaning as set forth in the federal "Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990" (42 U.S.C. s.12101 et seq.) and any regulations under the act."

Page 2, Section 1, Line 29:

Delete "c." and insert "d."

Respectfully,

[seal]

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

Attest:

/s/ Christopher S. Porrino

Chief Counsel to the Governor

SENATE, No. 1804

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
215th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 15, 2012

Sponsored by:

Senator JEFF VAN DREW

District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Norcross

SYNOPSIS

Permits pet owners to board public transportation with domesticated animals during emergency evacuation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/20/2012)

S1804 VAN DREW

2

1 AN ACT concerning emergency evacuation, supplementing chapter 9
2 of Appendix A, and amending P.L.1964, c.64.

3

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

6

7 1. (New section) a. For the purposes of this act:

8 "Domestic companion animal" means a dog, cat, bird, fish or any
9 animal commonly referred to as a pet that has been bought, bred,
10 raised or otherwise acquired, in accordance with local ordinances
11 and State and federal law for the primary purpose of providing
12 companionship, rather than for an agricultural purpose.

13 "Public transportation or public transportation service" means
14 rail passenger service, motorbus regular route service, paratransit
15 service, motorbus charter service, and ferry passenger service as
16 defined in section 3 of P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-3).

17 b. In the event that a state of emergency has been declared and
18 an evacuation of any region of the State is in progress, the owner of
19 a domestic companion animal shall be permitted to board any public
20 transportation or public transportation service with the domestic
21 companion animal so long as that animal is under the owner's
22 control by use of a leash or tether, or is properly confined in an
23 appropriate container or by other suitable means. The provisions of
24 this act shall only apply to the owners of domestic companion
25 animals who are evacuating from a region of the State affected by
26 the emergency or local disaster emergency as defined in section 3 of
27 P.L.1953, c. 438 (C.App.A:9-33.1).

28

29 2. Section 1 of P.L.1964, c.64 (C.32:1-146.8) is amended to
30 read as follows:

31 1. The Port of New York Authority (hereinafter called the
32 "Port Authority") having duly adopted the following rules and
33 regulations, hereinafter set forth in this section, in relation to
34 conduct within the territorial limits of the State of New Jersey and
35 at, on or in the Hudson Tubes and Hudson Tubes extensions
36 operated by its wholly-owned subsidiary the Port Authority Trans-
37 Hudson Corporation (hereinafter called "PATH"), the penalties
38 and procedures for their enforcement prescribed in section 2 shall
39 apply to violations thereof.

40 **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

41 (1) No person shall smoke, carry or possess a lighted cigarette,
42 cigar, pipe, match or any lighted instrument causing naked flame in
43 or about any area, building or appurtenance or in any cars or other
44 rolling stock of the Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions

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 where smoking has been prohibited by PATH and where
2 appropriate signs to that effect have been posted.

3 (2) No person, unless duly authorized by PATH, shall in or upon
4 any area, building, appurtenance, car or other rolling stock of the
5 Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions sell or offer for sale any
6 article of merchandise or solicit any business or trade, including the
7 carrying of bags for hire, the shining of shoes or bootblacking, or
8 shall entertain any persons by singing, dancing or playing any
9 musical instrument or solicit alms. No person, unless duly
10 authorized by PATH, shall post, distribute or display commercial
11 signs, circulars or other printed or written matter in or upon the
12 Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions.

13 (3) No person, who is unable to give satisfactory explanation of
14 his presence, shall loiter about any car, or other rolling stock, area,
15 building or appurtenance of the Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes
16 extensions, or sleep therein or thereon.

17 (4) No person not authorized by PATH shall be permitted in or
18 upon any car or other rolling stock or station or platform or parking
19 facility within the Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions,
20 except upon payment in full of such fares, fees and other charges as
21 may from time to time be prescribed by PATH. No person shall
22 refuse to pay or evade or attempt to evade the payment in full of
23 such fares, fees and other charges.

24 (5) No person shall spit upon, litter or create a nuisance or other
25 insanitary condition in or on any car or other rolling stock, area,
26 building or appurtenance of the Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes
27 extensions.

28 (6) ~~【No】~~ Except as provided under section 1 of
29 P.L. c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), no
30 person shall enter any car or other rolling stock, area, building or
31 appurtenance of the Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions
32 with any animal, except an animal properly confined in an
33 appropriate container or a guide dog properly harnessed and
34 muzzled, accompanying a blind person carrying a certificate of
35 identification issued by a guide dog school.

36 (7) No person shall get on any car or other rolling stock of the
37 Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions while it is in motion for
38 the purpose of obtaining transportation thereon as a passenger nor
39 shall any person willfully obstruct, hinder or delay the passage of
40 any such car or rolling stock. No person not authorized by PATH
41 shall walk upon or along any right-of-way or related trackage of the
42 Hudson Tubes or Hudson Tubes extensions.

43 (cf: P.L.1964, c.64, s.1)

44

45 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

This bill allows pet owners to board public transportation with any pet in the event that a state of emergency has been declared and an evacuation is in progress. The bill characterizes the term “pet” as a “domestic companion animal” which is defined as a dog, cat, bird, fish or any animal commonly referred to as a pet that has been bought, bred, raised or otherwise acquired for the primary purpose of providing companionship, rather than for agricultural purposes. The bill permits the pet owner to board public transportation so long as the animal is under the owner’s control by use of a leash or tether, or is properly confined in an appropriate container or by other suitable means.

SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1804

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 15, 2012

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 1804.

As amended and reported by the committee, this bill allows pet owners to board public transportation with a pet in the event that a state of emergency has been declared and an evacuation is in progress.

The bill characterizes the term “pet” as a “domestic companion animal” which is defined as a dog, cat, bird, fish, or any animal commonly referred to as a pet that has been bought, bred, raised, or otherwise acquired for the primary purpose of providing companionship, rather than for agricultural purposes.

Under the provisions of this bill a pet owner is permitted to board public transportation with a pet as long as the animal is under the owner’s control by use of a leash or tether, or is properly confined in an appropriate container, or by other suitable means.

The committee amended this bill to change the definition of a “domestic companion animal” to include the requirement that the animal does not constitute a health or safety hazard. The bill was also amended by the committee to clarify that passengers on public transportation must be provided seating before a domestic companion animal may be placed in a seat.

Finally, the committee amended the bill to make a technical correction to reflect the correct name of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and to make a technical correction to the operative date of the section concerning the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.