

52:27H-66

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 52:27H-66, 52:27H-80.1

(Urban enterprize zones--  
designate a 3rd zone)

LAWS OF: 1985

CHAPTER: 142

Bill No: S2811

Sponsor(s): Lynch

Date Introduced: March 7, 1985

Committee: Assembly: -----

Senate: -----

Amended during passage: No

Date of Passage: Assembly: March 7, 1985

Senate: March 7, 1985

Date of Approval: April 17, 1985

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

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CHAPTER 142 LAWS OF N. J. 1985  
APPROVED 4-17-85

SENATE, No. 2811

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 7, 1985

By Senator LYNCH

(Without Reference)

AN ACT concerning the designation of urban enterprise zones,  
amending and supplementing P. L. 1983, c. 303.

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

1 1. The Legislature finds, determines and declares:

2 a. The "New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zones Act," which be-  
3 came law on August 15, 1983 (P. L. 1983, c. 303, C. 52:27H-60 et al.),  
4 aimed at encouraging the revitalization of some of the State's most  
5 distressed urban areas, by providing a variety of development  
6 incentives in the "enterprise zones" to be designated by the au-  
7 thority established pursuant to that act.

8 b. Section 7 of the act (P. L. 1983, c. 303, C. 52:27H-66), designed  
9 to concentrate the benefits of zone designation and to provide for  
10 the gradual and geographically balanced introduction of such  
11 zones, provided (1) that no more than 10 enterprise zones be in  
12 existence at any one time, (2) that no more than two be designated  
13 in any one year, and (3) that designations be geographically bal-  
14 anced (including the specific requirement that at least two of the  
15 first four zones be located within the 10 southernmost counties, and  
16 at least one of the next two be located within the five counties next  
17 most northern to the 10 southernmost).

18 c. Experience since the enactment of the act indicates that some  
19 of the requirements imposed by section 2 are unduly restrictive.  
20 The Urban Enterprise Zone Authority recently (March 4, 1985)  
21 designated a zone in the city of Trenton after prolonged discussion,  
22 in which the members found it difficult and distressing to be forced  
23 to choose between that designation and one proposed in the city of  
24 Plainfield. Because of the provisions of section 7, the authority

**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.

25 could designate only two zones in 1985, and only one zone outside  
26 the 10 southernmost counties. It was only after two tie votes and  
27 an adjourned session that the authority was able to make a de-  
28 termination on the matter.

29 d. The Urban Enterprise Zone Authority has unanimously re-  
30 solved its support for legislation that would ease the restrictions  
31 of section 7, permitting the designation of another enterprise zone  
32 in the five-county "Central Jersey" area in 1985 and accelerating  
33 the designation process.

34 e. Accordingly, it is the intention of this act to recast the zone  
35 designation requirements so as to provide for a third designation  
36 within the current year (specifying that the zone so designated be  
37 in the five counties next most northern to the 10 southernmost),  
38 and permit the acceleration of future designations by removing  
39 the annual restriction.

1 2. Section 7 of P. L. 1983, c. 303 (C. 52:27H-66) is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 7. The authority shall designate enterprise zones from among  
4 those areas of qualifying municipalities determined to be eligible  
5 pursuant to this act. No more than **[two enterprise zones shall be**  
6 **designated in any one year, no more than]** 10 enterprise zones shall  
7 be in effect at any one time. No more than one enterprise zone  
8 shall be designated in any one municipality. Any designation  
9 granted shall be for a period of 20 years and shall not be renewed  
10 at the end of that period. In designating enterprise zones the  
11 authority shall seek to avoid excessive geographic concentration  
12 of zones in any particular region of the State, and of the initial  
13 **[four] five** enterprise zones designated by the authority, two shall  
14 be located in the 10 southernmost counties of the State**].** Of the  
15 next **] and [two enterprise zones designated thereafter,]** at least  
16 one shall be located in one of the five counties next most northern  
17 to those 10 counties, *shall be located in a municipality of not less*  
18 *than 45,000 nor more than 46,000 population and shall be designated*  
19 *within 90 days of the effective date of this amendatory and sup-*  
20 *plementary act.*

1 3. (New section) In addition to those enterprise zones to which  
2 the provisions of section 21 of P. L. 1983, c. 303 (C. 52:27H-80) have  
3 been or may be extended by the authority, the provisions of that  
4 section shall be extended to that enterprise zone which is required  
5 by section 7 of P. L. 1983, c. 303 (C. 52:27H-66) to be designated  
6 among the first five and to be located in a municipality of not less  
7 than 45,000 nor more than 46,000 population located within the five  
8 counties next most northern to the 10 southernmost counties.

1 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

## STATEMENT

The purpose of this bill is set forth in section 1 (legislative findings). It would direct the designation of a third urban enterprise zone, in addition to the two (already designated) authorized for 1985 under the "New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zones Act," and would provide that the additional zone receive the full sales-tax benefits which might otherwise be restricted under section 21 of the act.

The bill would also permit the Urban Enterprise Zone Authority to accelerate the designation of zones, by removing the present restriction on the number that may be designated in any one year.

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## STATEMENT

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S2811 (1985)



# OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR NEWS RELEASE

**CN-001**

**Contact:** CARL GOLDEN  
609-292-8956

**TRENTON, N.J. 08625**

**Release:** WED., APRIL 17, 1985

Governor Thomas H. Kean today signed legislation clearing the way for the designation of Plainfield as an urban enterprise zone, thus qualifying businesses locating in the enterprise area for tax breaks and incentives.

The bill was signed at a public ceremony in Plainfield High School. The legislation, S-2811, was sponsored by Senator John Lynch, D-Middlesex, and the Assembly version, A-3374, by Assemblyman David Schwartz, D-Middlesex.

It directs the Urban Enterprise Zone Authority to designate a third enterprise zone in 1985 and provides that the designation go to Plainfield.

The City would become the fifth to receive the enterprise zone designation. Newark and Camden were selected in 1984 when the legislation was signed by the Governor, while Trenton and Bridgeton were selected by the Authority in 1985.

"Plainfield is more than deserving of this action," Kean said. "The officials of the Community offered an excellent presentation to the Enterprise Zone Authority and the final decision was very difficult, indeed."

"The urban enterprise zone concept has but one goal --- the revitalization of city commercial and business areas," Kean said. "Plainfield is an ideal place for the urban enterprise zone program."

"It's business district is one which is capable of attracting commercial development, with the assistance from the State that urban enterprise zone designation can bring," Kean said. "I look forward to coming back to Plainfield after this program has had time to work and to seeing a thriving and economically health business section."

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