

52:17B-9.1 to 52:17B-9.4

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

HJSA 52:17B-9.1 to 52:17B-9.4

LAWS OF 1977 \_\_\_\_\_

CHAPTER 150 (Capital Police Force-  
Transfer to Dept. of Law  
and Public Safety.)

Bill No. 5340

Sponsor(s) Merlino

Date Introduced Pre-filed

Committee: Assembly State Government, Federal and Interstate Relations

Senate State Government, Federal and Interstate Relations

Amended during passage Yes

~~No~~ amendment during passage  
denoted by asterisks

Date of Passage: Assembly May 9, 1977

Senate January 27, 1977

Date of approval June 30, 1977

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement	Yes	<del>No</del>
Committee Statement: Assembly	<del>Yes</del>	No
Senate	Yes	<del>No</del>
Fiscal Note	<del>Yes</del>	No
Veto Message	<del>Yes</del>	No
Message on signing	Yes	<del>No</del>
Following were printed:		
Reports	<del>Yes</del>	No
Hearings	<del>Yes</del>	No

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SENATE, No. 346

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1976 SESSION

By Senator MERLINO

AN ACT reconstituting the State Capitol Police Force, supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes, and repealing R. S. 52:20-25, sections 1 and 2 of P. L. 1938, c. 389 and section 1 of P. L. 1939, c. 77.

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

1 1. The State Capitol Police Force created pursuant to R. S.  
2 52:20-25 is hereby reconstituted in the Department of **\*\*[the**  
3 **Treasury]\*\*** *\*\*Law and Public Safety\*\** under the direction and  
3A supervision of the **\*\*[State Treasurer]\*\*** *\*\*Superintendent of*  
3B *State Police\*\**.

4 The State Capitol Police Force, as reconstituted, shall consist  
5 of the present members of said force **\*\*[and]\*\*** *\*\*with\*\** such  
6 officers of rank and grade as the **\*\*[State Treasurer]\*\*** *\*\*Super-*  
7 *intendent, with the approval of the Attorney General,\*\** shall  
7A designate. The officers of the force shall possess all police powers  
7B as other police officers<sup>\*\*</sup>, *subject to the rules of the Division of*  
7C *State Police\*\**.

8 Each member of the State Capitol Police Force shall take an  
9 oath that he will well and truly serve the State of New Jersey  
10 as an officer of the State Capitol Police Force, which oath shall be  
11 filed with the Secretary of State.

1 2. a. The jurisdiction of the State Capitol Police Force shall  
2 cover all State Capitol grounds, adjoining parks, court rooms,  
3 jury rooms and assembly areas, and *\*may be extended by the*  
4 *Governor to such\** other buildings and grounds owned, leased or  
5 used by the State and the adjacent and surrounding grounds and  
6 areas to and between such grounds as *\*he\** may **\*\*[be]\*\*** *\*deem\**  
6A necessary to perform the duties set forth herein. *\*Nothing herein*  
6B *shall be construed to prohibit the assignment, from time to time,*

**EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

6c of other personnel to perform specific police duties as the Governor  
 6d may deem necessary to maintain law, order and decorum on said  
 6e State buildings and grounds.\*

7 b. The duties and responsibilities of the State Capitol Police  
 8 Force shall include:

9 (1) Maintenance of law, order and decorum on all State grounds  
 10 as enumerated above;

11 (2) The protection and policing of all areas used by the members  
 12 of the Legislature\*\*, Executive\*\* and Judiciary, and the rendering  
 13 and performing of services necessary to the proper, convenient and  
 14 efficient performance of said members' duties at, around, and  
 15 between State grounds as set forth herein, and the offices used by  
 16 members of the Legislature\*\*, Executive\*\* and Judiciary; \*\*and\*\*

17 \*\*[(3) Maintaining the standards of the Police Training Com-  
 18 mission, including the taking of such periodical training and  
 19 refresher courses offered to maintain the skills necessary to per-  
 20 form the duties prescribed herein at the highest attainable level of  
 21 proficiency, including the use of all regularly issued State Police  
 22 equipment; and

23 (4) Establishment and maintenance of an efficient line of com-  
 24 munications with the Attorney General, and with the Super-  
 25 intendent of State Police for mutual aid and assistance in times  
 26 of emergency.]\*\*

27 \*\* (3) Attaining such standards of training and competence as  
 28 may be set by the Superintendent of State Police with the approval  
 29 of the Attorney General.\*\*

1 3. Such equipment as is assigned to the members of the State  
 2 Capitol Police Force as of the date of enactment of this act shall  
 3 remain with the force. \*\*The Division of State Police shall supply  
 4 such equipment as is deemed necessary by the Superintendent.\*\*

1 4. The \*\*[State Treasurer]\*\* \*\*Superintendent of State  
 2 Police\*\* shall be responsible for the establishment and promulga-  
 3 tion of rules and regulations of the State Capitol Police Force\*\*,  
 4 subject to the approval of the Attorney General\*\*.

1 5. R. S. 52:20-25, sections 1 and 2 of P. L. 1938, c. 389 (C. 52:20-26  
 2 and 52:20-27) and section 1 of P. L. 1939, c. 77 (C. 52:20-28) are  
 3 repealed.

1 6. This act shall take effect July 1 next following enactment.

14 formance of said members' duties at, around, and between State  
15 grounds as set forth herein, and the offices used by members of the  
16 Legislature and Judiciary;

17 (3) Maintaining the standards of the Police Training Commis-  
18 sion, including the taking of such periodical training and refresher  
19 courses offered to maintain the skills necessary to perform the  
20 duties prescribed herein at the highest attainable level of pro-  
21 ficiency, including the use of all regularly issued State Police  
22 equipment; and

23 (4) Establishment and maintenance of an efficient line of com-  
24 munications with the Attorney General, and with the Super-  
25 intendent of State Police for mutual aid and assistance in times  
26 of emergency.

1 3. Such equipment as is assigned to the members of the State  
2 Capitol Police Force as of the date of enactment of this act shall  
3 remain with the force.

1 4. The State Treasurer shall be responsible for the establishment  
2 and promulgation of rules and regulations of the State Capitol  
3 Police Force.

1 5. R. S. 52:20-25, sections 1 and 2 of P. L. 1938, c. 389 (C. 52:20-26  
2 and 52:20-27) and section 1 of P. L. 1939, c. 77 (C. 52:20-28) are  
3 repealed.

1 6. This act shall take effect July 1 next following enactment.

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#### STATEMENT

This bill reconstitutes the State Capitol Police Force in the Department of the Treasury under the direction and supervision of the State Treasurer and defines its areas of jurisdiction and responsibility. Governor Alfred E. Driscoll transferred temporary supervision of the State Capitol Police from the Division of Purchase and Property for budgetary reasons to the State Police by executive order on March 17, 1948.

In addition, the bill extends the authority of the State Capitol Police Force to other buildings or grounds owned, leased or used by the State.

The need for this legislation is brought to light in view of the fact that the State Capitol Police render the same services performed by Trenton Municipal Police in Trenton but within their own jurisdiction on State grounds as provided by statute, and should receive similar compensation and allowances and, for organizational reasons, be structured similarly, i.e., with rank, degrees, and methods and tests for advancement and promotion.

These measures are necessary to maintain good morale and unity of the force and would be a financial aid to the State as State Troopers presently supervising and involving themselves with the duties of the State Capitol Police can be freed to perform services for which they were hired. A trooper receives substantially more money than a State Capitol Police Officer, thus, this would result in substantial savings in salary and allowances. In addition it is reasonably expected there would be a decrease in the excessive turnover in the State Capitol Police Force caused by the lack of rank, no chance for promotion, and built in obscurity, and the cost of training these men would not be lost through this high turnover and loss of return on State Police training.

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT AND FEDERAL  
AND INTERSTATE RELATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 346**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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DATED: FEBRUARY 9, 1976

This bill reconstitutes the State Capitol Police Force in the Department of the Treasury under the direction and supervision of the State Treasurer and defines its areas of jurisdiction and responsibility. Governor Alfred E. Driscoll transferred temporary supervision of the State Capitol Police from the Division of Purchase and Property to the State Police by executive order on March 17, 1948.

In addition, the bill extends the authority of the State Capitol Police Force to other buildings or grounds owned, leased or used by the State.

The bill is aimed at improving morale on the force and would be a financial aid to the State, since State Troopers presently supervising and involving themselves with the duties of the State Capitol Police would be freed to perform services for which they were hired. In addition it is reasonably expected there would be a decrease in the excessive turnover in the State Capitol Police Force caused by the lack of rank and no chance for promotion.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUNE 30, 1977

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

ANNE BURNS

Governor Brendan Byrne today signed into law S-346, sponsored by Senator Joseph P. Merlino (D-Mercer), which reconstitutes the State Capitol Police Force.

Under this legislation the force is to remain under the supervision of the Superintendent of State Police.

The force will consist of its present members. The bill authorizes the Superintendent to designate officers of specific rank and grade with the approval of the Attorney General.

The jurisdiction of the State Capitol Police Force will cover all State Capitol grounds, adjoining parks, court rooms, jury rooms and Assembly areas and may be extended by the Governor to other buildings and grounds owned, leased or used by the State as he deems necessary.

The duties of the State Capitol Police Force will include:

1. Maintenance of law and order on State grounds, and
2. Protection of all areas used by members of the Legislature, Executive and Judiciary.

They will also be required to meet the standards for competence and training set by the Superintendent of State Police with the approval of the Attorney General.

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