

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: No

RWH/JA

P.L.2016, CHAPTER 61, *approved November 14, 2016*
Senate Committee Substitute for
Senate, Nos. 1967 and 1749

1 **AN ACT** concerning the solemnization of marriages and civil unions
2 and amending R.S.37:1-13.

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

6
7 1. R.S.37:1-13 is amended to read as follows:
8 37:1-13. a. Authorization to solemnize marriages and civil
9 unions.

10 Each judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third
11 Circuit, each judge of a federal district court, United States
12 magistrate, judge of a municipal court, judge of the Superior Court,
13 judge of **[a tax court]** the Tax Court, administrative law judge,
14 retired judge of the Superior Court or Tax Court, retired
15 administrative law judge, or judge of the Superior Court or Tax
16 Court, the former County Court, the former County Juvenile and
17 Domestic Relations Court, or the former County District Court who
18 has resigned in good standing, surrogate of any county, county
19 clerk, and any mayor or former mayor not currently serving on the
20 municipal governing body or the deputy mayor when authorized by
21 the mayor, or chairman of any township committee or village
22 president of this State, every member of the clergy of every
23 religion, and any civil celebrant who is certified by the Secretary of
24 State to solemnize marriages or civil unions as set forth in
25 subsection b. of this section, are hereby authorized to solemnize
26 marriages or civil unions between such persons as may lawfully
27 enter into the matrimonial relation or civil union; and every
28 religious society, institution or organization in this State may join
29 together in marriage or civil union such persons according to the
30 rules and customs of the society, institution or organization.

31 b. A civil celebrant shall be authorized to solemnize marriages
32 or civil unions if certified to do so by the Secretary of State.

33 (1) A civil celebrant shall receive a certification from the
34 Secretary of State to solemnize marriages or civil unions if the
35 celebrant:

36 (a) is at least 18 years of age and has graduated from a
37 secondary school in this State or another state;

38 (b) has completed a civil celebrant course offered by a non-
39 denominational or educational charitable organization that is
40 registered with the State under the "Charitable Registration and
41 Investigation Act," P.L.1994, c.16 (C.45:17A-18 et seq.), and which
42 course:

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 (i) includes classes that meet weekly or with more frequency,
2 either administered in person or by other means, over a period of
3 not less than six months; and

4 (ii) educates on topics including, but not limited to, celebrant
5 philosophy and history, ceremonial structure, and ceremonial
6 presentations; and

7 (c) (i) submits a completed application form, developed by the
8 secretary pursuant to regulation, which includes the name and
9 address of the celebrant-applicant along with any other relevant
10 information on the celebrant-applicant required by the secretary,
11 and supporting documentation with respect to all certification
12 requirements set forth in this subsection; and

13 (ii) pays to the Department of State, at the time of submitting the
14 completed application, a fee of not less than \$50 or more than \$75,
15 as determined by the secretary by regulation, to cover costs for
16 processing applications, producing and issuing certificates, and
17 maintaining records on applications and certificates issued or
18 denied.

19 (2) (a) A celebrant-applicant shall not be authorized to
20 solemnize marriages or civil unions until the application for
21 certification is approved and the certificate received from the
22 secretary.

23 (b) A civil celebrant who has received a certification from the
24 secretary may have that certification revoked, through a hearing
25 before an administrative law judge, if the secretary determines that
26 any information provided in the celebrant's application was
27 inaccurate or otherwise did not comply with the certification
28 requirements set forth in this subsection. A civil celebrant subject
29 to a revocation hearing before an administrative law judge or any
30 appeal thereof shall not be authorized to solemnize marriages or
31 civil unions, and shall only again be authorized to do so if a final
32 determination is made permitting the civil celebrant to retain the
33 certification.

34 (cf: P.L.2013, c.243, s.1)

35

36 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

37

38

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41 _____
42 Authorizes current and retired administrative law judges to
solemnize marriages and civil unions.

SENATE, No. 1967

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 14, 2016

Sponsored by:

Senator GERALD CARDINALE

District 39 (Bergen and Passaic)

Senator NICHOLAS P. SCUTARI

District 22 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union)

SYNOPSIS

Permits current and retired Administrative Law Judges to solemnize marriages and civil unions.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



S1967 CARDINALE, SCUTARI

2

1 AN ACT concerning the solemnization of marriages and civil unions
2 and amending R.S.37:1-13.

3

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

6

7 1. R.S.37:1-13 is amended to read as follows:

8 37:1-13. a. Authorization to solemnize marriages and civil
9 unions.

10 Each judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third
11 Circuit, each judge of a federal district court, United States
12 magistrate, judge of a municipal court, judge of the Superior Court,
13 judge of a tax court, Administrative Law Judge, retired judge of the
14 Superior Court or Tax Court, or judge of the Superior Court or Tax
15 Court, or retired Administrative Law Judge, the former County
16 Court, the former County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court,
17 or the former County District Court who has resigned in good
18 standing, surrogate of any county, county clerk, and any mayor or
19 former mayor not currently serving on the municipal governing
20 body or the deputy mayor when authorized by the mayor, or
21 chairman of any township committee or village president of this
22 State, every member of the clergy of every religion, and any civil
23 celebrant who is certified by the Secretary of State to solemnize
24 marriages or civil unions as set forth in subsection b. of this section,
25 are hereby authorized to solemnize marriages or civil unions
26 between such persons as may lawfully enter into the matrimonial
27 relation or civil union; and every religious society, institution or
28 organization in this State may join together in marriage or civil
29 union such persons according to the rules and customs of the
30 society, institution or organization.

31 b. A civil celebrant shall be authorized to solemnize marriages
32 or civil unions if certified to do so by the Secretary of State.

33 (1) A civil celebrant shall receive a certification from the
34 Secretary of State to solemnize marriages or civil unions if the
35 celebrant:

36 (a) is at least 18 years of age and has graduated from a
37 secondary school in this State or another state;

38 (b) has completed a civil celebrant course offered by a non-
39 denominational or educational charitable organization that is
40 registered with the State under the "Charitable Registration and
41 Investigation Act," P.L.1994, c.16 (C.45:17A-18 et seq.), and which
42 course:

43 (i) includes classes that meet weekly or with more frequency,
44 either administered in person or by other means, over a period of
45 not less than six months; and

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.

S1967 CARDINALE, SCUTARI

3

1 (ii) educates on topics including, but not limited to, celebrant
2 philosophy and history, ceremonial structure, and ceremonial
3 presentations; and

4 (c) (i) submits a completed application form, developed by the
5 secretary pursuant to regulation, which includes the name and
6 address of the celebrant-applicant along with any other relevant
7 information on the celebrant-applicant required by the secretary,
8 and supporting documentation with respect to all certification
9 requirements set forth in this subsection; and

10 (ii) pays to the Department of State, at the time of submitting the
11 completed application, a fee of not less than \$50 or more than \$75,
12 as determined by the secretary by regulation, to cover costs for
13 processing applications, producing and issuing certificates, and
14 maintaining records on applications and certificates issued or
15 denied.

16 (2) (a) A celebrant-applicant shall not be authorized to
17 solemnize marriages or civil unions until the application for
18 certification is approved and the certificate received from the
19 secretary.

20 (b) A civil celebrant who has received a certification from the
21 secretary may have that certification revoked, through a hearing
22 before an administrative law judge, if the secretary determines that
23 any information provided in the celebrant's application was
24 inaccurate or otherwise did not comply with the certification
25 requirements set forth in this subsection. A civil celebrant subject
26 to a revocation hearing before an administrative law judge or any
27 appeal thereof shall not be authorized to solemnize marriages or
28 civil unions, and shall only again be authorized to do so if a final
29 determination is made permitting the civil celebrant to retain the
30 certification.

31 (cf: P.L.2013, c.243)

32

33 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

34

35

36

STATEMENT

37

38 This bill would permit current Administrative Law judges and
39 retired Administrative Law judges who have resigned in good
40 standing to perform marriages and civil unions.

SENATE, No. 1749

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 7, 2016

Sponsored by:

Senator ROBERT M. GORDON

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Permits current Administrative Law Judges to solemnize marriages and civil unions.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning the solemnization of marriages and civil unions
2 and amending R.S.37:1-13.

3

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

6

7 1. R.S.37:1-13 is amended to read as follows:

8 37:1-13. a. Authorization to solemnize marriages and civil
9 unions.

10 Each judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third
11 Circuit, each judge of a federal district court, United States
12 magistrate, judge of a municipal court, judge of the Superior Court,
13 judge of a tax court, Administrative Law Judge, retired judge of the
14 Superior Court or Tax Court, or judge of the Superior Court or Tax
15 Court, the former County Court, the former County Juvenile and
16 Domestic Relations Court, or the former County District Court who
17 has resigned in good standing, surrogate of any county, county
18 clerk, and any mayor or former mayor not currently serving on the
19 municipal governing body or the deputy mayor when authorized by
20 the mayor, or chairman of any township committee or village
21 president of this State, every member of the clergy of every
22 religion, and any civil celebrant who is certified by the Secretary of
23 State to solemnize marriages or civil unions as set forth in
24 subsection b. of this section, are hereby authorized to solemnize
25 marriages or civil unions between such persons as may lawfully
26 enter into the matrimonial relation or civil union; and every
27 religious society, institution or organization in this State may join
28 together in marriage or civil union such persons according to the
29 rules and customs of the society, institution or organization.

30 b. A civil celebrant shall be authorized to solemnize marriages
31 or civil unions if certified to do so by the Secretary of State.

32 (1) A civil celebrant shall receive a certification from the
33 Secretary of State to solemnize marriages or civil unions if the
34 celebrant:

35 (a) is at least 18 years of age and has graduated from a
36 secondary school in this State or another state;

37 (b) has completed a civil celebrant course offered by a non-
38 denominational or educational charitable organization that is
39 registered with the State under the "Charitable Registration and
40 Investigation Act," P.L.1994, c.16 (C.45:17A-18 et seq.), and which
41 course:

42 (i) includes classes that meet weekly or with more frequency,
43 either administered in person or by other means, over a period of
44 not less than six months; and

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Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 (ii) educates on topics including, but not limited to, celebrant
2 philosophy and history, ceremonial structure, and ceremonial
3 presentations; and

4 (c) (i) submits a completed application form, developed by the
5 secretary pursuant to regulation, which includes the name and
6 address of the celebrant-applicant along with any other relevant
7 information on the celebrant-applicant required by the secretary,
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9 requirements set forth in this subsection; and

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28 civil unions, and shall only again be authorized to do so if a final
29 determination is made permitting the civil celebrant to retain the
30 certification.

31 (cf: P.L. 2013, c.243)

32

33 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

34

35

36

STATEMENT

37

38 This bill would permit current Administrative Law judges to
39 perform marriages and civil unions.

ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE, Nos. 1967 and 1749

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

The Assembly Judiciary Committee reports favorably a Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill Nos. 1967 and 1749.

This bill would authorize current and retired administrative law judges to perform marriages and civil unions.

Under current law, marriages and civil unions may be solemnized by each judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, each judge of a federal district court, United States magistrate, judge of a municipal court, judge of the Superior Court, judge of a tax court, retired judge of the Superior Court or Tax Court, or judge of the Superior Court or Tax Court, the former County Court, the former County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, or the former County District Court who has resigned in good standing, surrogate of any county, county clerk, and any mayor or former mayor not currently serving on the municipal governing body or the deputy mayor when authorized by the mayor, or chairman of any township committee or village president of this State, every member of the clergy of every religion, and any civil celebrant who is certified by the Secretary of State to solemnize marriages or civil unions.

This bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 3707(1R), which was also reported by the committee on this date.

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE, Nos. 1967 and 1749

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 5, 2016

The Senate Judiciary Committee reports favorably a Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill Nos. 1967 and 1749.

The substitute bill would authorize current and retired administrative law judges to perform marriages and civil unions.

ASSEMBLY, No. 3707

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 19, 2016

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman TIM EUSTACE

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI

District 33 (Hudson)

Assemblyman JAMEL C. HOLLEY

District 20 (Union)

SYNOPSIS

Permits current Administrative Law Judges to solemnize marriages and civil unions.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/16/2016)

1 AN ACT concerning the solemnization of marriages and civil unions
2 and amending R.S.37:1-13.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
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14 Superior Court or Tax Court, or judge of the Superior Court or Tax
15 Court, the former County Court, the former County Juvenile and
16 Domestic Relations Court, or the former County District Court who
17 has resigned in good standing, surrogate of any county, county
18 clerk, and any mayor or former mayor not currently serving on the
19 municipal governing body or the deputy mayor when authorized by
20 the mayor, or chairman of any township committee or village
21 president of this State, every member of the clergy of every
22 religion, and any civil celebrant who is certified by the Secretary of
23 State to solemnize marriages or civil unions as set forth in
24 subsection b. of this section, are hereby authorized to solemnize
25 marriages or civil unions between such persons as may lawfully
26 enter into the matrimonial relation or civil union; and every
27 religious society, institution or organization in this State may join
28 together in marriage or civil union such persons according to the
29 rules and customs of the society, institution or organization.

30 b. A civil celebrant shall be authorized to solemnize marriages
31 or civil unions if certified to do so by the Secretary of State.

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39 registered with the State under the "Charitable Registration and
40 Investigation Act," P.L.1994, c.16 (C.45:17A-18 et seq.), and which
41 course:

42 (i) includes classes that meet weekly or with more frequency,
43 either administered in person or by other means, over a period of
44 not less than six months; and

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 (ii) educates on topics including, but not limited to, celebrant
2 philosophy and history, ceremonial structure, and ceremonial
3 presentations; and

4 (c) (i) submits a completed application form, developed by the
5 secretary pursuant to regulation, which includes the name and
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9 requirements set forth in this subsection; and

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28 civil unions, and shall only again be authorized to do so if a final
29 determination is made permitting the civil celebrant to retain the
30 certification.

31 (cf: P.L.2013, c.243)

32

33 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

34

35

36

STATEMENT

37

38 This bill would permit current Administrative Law judges to
39 perform marriages and civil unions.

ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3707

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

The Assembly Judiciary Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 3707.

This bill as amended would authorize current and retired administrative law judges to perform marriages and civil unions.

Under current law, marriages and civil unions may be solemnized by each judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, each judge of a federal district court, United States magistrate, judge of a municipal court, judge of the Superior Court, judge of a tax court, retired judge of the Superior Court or Tax Court, or judge of the Superior Court or Tax Court, the former County Court, the former County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, or the former County District Court who has resigned in good standing, surrogate of any county, county clerk, and any mayor or former mayor not currently serving on the municipal governing body or the deputy mayor when authorized by the mayor, or chairman of any township committee or village president of this State, every member of the clergy of every religion, and any civil celebrant who is certified by the Secretary of State to solemnize marriages or civil unions.

As introduced, the bill had applied only to current administrative law judges. The committee amended the bill to include retired administrative law judges as well.

This bill as amended is identical to Senate Committee Substitute for Senate, Nos. 1967 and 1749, which was also reported by the committee on this date.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

1. Add retired administrative law judges to the provisions of the bill.
2. Correct minor capitalization errors for the terms "Tax Court" and "administrative law judge."

Governor Chris Christie Takes Action On Pending Legislation

Monday, November 14, 2016 Tags: [Bill Action](#)

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Trenton, NJ – Governor Chris Christie announced that he has taken action on the following legislation:

BILL SIGNINGS:

SCS for S-1967, 1749/A-3707 (Cardinale, Scutari, Gordon/Eustace, Mukherji, Holley) - Authorizes current and retired administrative law judges to solemnize marriages and civil unions

S-2004/A-3606 (Beach, Madden/Eustace, DeAngelo, Webber, Mukherji, Downey, Space) - Requires DOLWD to permit veterans and other groups to apply for UI benefits online

A-766/S-1386 (Andrzejczak, Mazzeo, Lampitt, Wimberly, Pintor Marin, Downey/Gill, Greenstein) - Allows certain National Guard and United States Reserve members to temporarily defer mortgage loan payments and property tax payments

AS for A-3401/SCS for S-2136 (Greenwald, Downey, Phoebus, Space/Oroho, Sarlo)- Concerns electronic medical bills for workers' compensation claims

BILL VETOED

S-2160/A-3819 (Vitale, Sweeney/Quijano, DeAngelo, Giblin, Benson, Zwicker, Daniels, Houghtaling, Sumter) – **CONDITIONAL** - Concerns unemployment compensation and labor disputes

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