### 2A:23E-1 to 2A:23E-8

#### LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2017 **CHAPTER:** 1 NJSA: 2A:23E-1 to 2A:23E-8 ("New Jersey International Arbitration, Mediation, and Conciliation Act.") **BILL NO:** S602 (Substituted for A1138) **SPONSOR(S)** Cunningham and others DATE INTRODUCED: 1/12/2016 **COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY:** Judiciary SENATE: Commerce **AMENDED DURING PASSAGE:** Yes DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: 12/19/2016 SENATE: 9/15/2016 **DATE OF APPROVAL:** 2/6/2017 FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE: FINAL TEXT OF BILL (First Reprint enacted) Yes S602 **SPONSOR'S STATEMENT:** (Begins on page 5 of introduced bill) Yes **COMMITTEE STATEMENT:** Yes ASSEMBLY: SENATE: Yes (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 A1138 SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 5 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:

(continued)

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** 

No

No

VETO MESSAGE:	No
GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:	Yes
FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:  To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or <a href="mailto:refdesk@njstateli">mailto:refdesk@njstateli</a>	b.org
REPORTS:	No
HEARINGS:	No
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:	Yes
"New arbitration law intended to encourage N.J. global trade," The Record, February 7, 2017	7.

RWH/JA.

Title 2A.
Subtitle 6.
Chapter 23E.
(New)
International
Arbitration,
Mediation, and
Reconciliation
§§1-8 C.2A:23E-1 to
2A:23E-8
§9 - Note

#### P.L.2017, CHAPTER 1, approved February 6, 2017 Senate, No. 602 (First Reprint)

1 AN ACT concerning international arbitration and supplementing 2 Title 2A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "New Jersey International Arbitration, Mediation, and Conciliation Act."

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- 2. The Legislature finds and declares that:
- a. The State of New Jersey is in a unique position to benefit from the growth of international trade, and the State's position in the region provides important opportunities for the State to participate in international business, trade, and commerce;
- b. There will inevitably arise, from time to time, disagreements and disputes arising from international commercial transactions that are amenable to resolution through international arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other forms of dispute resolution in lieu of international litigation;
- c. It is the policy of this State to encourage the use of arbitration, mediation, and conciliation to reduce disputes arising out of international business, trade, commercial, and other relationships; and
- d. It is declared that the objective of encouraging the development of New Jersey as an international center for the resolution of international business, commercial, trade, and other disputes be supported through the establishment of certain legal authorities, as set forth in this act.

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

3. As used in this act:

<sup>1</sup>["Arbitration" means arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other forms of dispute resolution as an alternative to international litigation.]

"Arbitral award" means an award signed by an arbitrator that may be the result of a settlement in arbitration, mediation, conciliation or other form of dispute resolution that involves the assistance of a neutral.<sup>1</sup>

"Center" means any center organized <sup>1</sup>[by a public research university] as a non-profit entity<sup>1</sup>, whose principal purpose is to facilitate the resolution of international business, trade, commercial, and other disputes between persons by means of arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other means as an alternative to litigation.

"Person" means <sup>1</sup> [corporation, company, association, society, firm, partnership and joint stock company, as well as an individual, and includes any government, or agency, instrumentality, or subdivision thereof an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, government, public corporation, or any other legal or commercial entity, including any government subdivision, agency, or instrumentality <sup>1</sup>.

"Resident of the United States" means a person who maintains sole residence within a state, possession, commonwealth, or territory of the United States or within the District of Columbia.

"Written undertaking to arbitrate" means a writing in which a person undertakes to submit a dispute to arbitration, without regard to whether that undertaking is sufficient to sustain a valid and enforceable contract or is subject to defenses. A written undertaking may be part of a contract, may be a separate writing, and may be contained in correspondence, telegrams, telexes, or any other form of written communication.

- 4. a. This act shall apply only to the arbitration of disputes between:
- (1) two or more persons at least one of whom is a nonresident of the United States; or
- (2) two or more persons all of whom are residents of the United States if the dispute:
  - (a) involves property located outside the United States;
- (b) relates to a contract which envisages enforcement or performance in whole or in part outside the United States; or
  - (c) bears some other relation to one or more foreign countries.
- b. Notwithstanding subsection a. of this section, this act shall not apply to the arbitration of:
- 46 (1) any dispute pertaining to the ownership, use, development, 47 or possession of, or a lien of record upon, real property located in

this State, unless the parties expressly submit the resolution of that dispute to this act; or

(2) any dispute involving family or domestic relations law.

- c. If, in any arbitration within the scope of this act, reference must be made, under applicable conflict of laws principles, to the arbitration law of this State, that reference shall be to this act.
- d. This act shall apply to any arbitration within the scope of this act, without regard to whether the place of arbitration is within or without this State:
- (1) if the written undertaking to arbitrate expressly provides that the laws of this State shall apply;
- (2) in the absence of a choice of law provision applicable to the written undertaking to arbitrate, if that undertaking forms part of a contract the interpretation of which is to be governed by the laws of this State; or
- (3) in any other case, any arbitral tribunal or other panel established pursuant to this act that decides under applicable conflict of laws principles that the arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the laws of this State.
- 5. Conducting arbitration in this State, or making a written agreement to arbitrate which provides for arbitration within this State subject to this act, shall constitute a consent by the parties to that arbitration or undertaking to the exercise of in personam jurisdiction by the courts of this State, but only for the purposes of that arbitration.
- 6. a. A center shall not be considered a department, agency, or public instrumentality of this State, and shall not be subject to the laws of this State applying to departments, agencies, or public instrumentalities of this State <sup>1</sup>[, except that a center shall be subject to all of the laws of this State pertaining to public institutions of higher education]<sup>1</sup>.
- b. A center shall permit the participants to an arbitration to select any body of rules and procedures for the conduct, administration, and facilitation of that proceeding, whether those rules and procedures have been prepared by private arbitral organizations, created by the participants themselves, or by the center.
- c. A center shall have the authority to establish rules and procedures for the conduct, administration, and facilitation of the resolution of all disputes subject to this act.
- d. A center shall have the authority to adopt rules providing, without limitation and by way of illustration only, for the establishment of arbitral tribunals or other panels, which shall provide that arbitral tribunals or other panels may:
- (1) determine the relevance and materiality of the evidence without the need to follow formal rules of evidence;

- 1 (2) be able to utilize any lawful methods that it deems 2 appropriate to obtain evidence additional to that produced by the 3 parties;
  - (3) issue <sup>1</sup>[summons] <u>subpoenas</u><sup>1</sup> or other <sup>1</sup>[demands] <u>requests</u><sup>1</sup> for the attendance of witnesses or for the production of books, records, documents, and other evidence;
  - (4) be empowered to administer oaths, order depositions to be taken or other discovery obtained <sup>1</sup>or produced <sup>1</sup>, without regard to the place where the witness or other evidence is located, and appoint one or more experts to report to it;
  - (5) fix any fees for the attendance of witnesses it deems appropriate; and
  - (6) make awards of interest, reasonable attorney's fees and costs of arbitration as agreed to in writing by the parties, or in the absence of an agreement, as it deems appropriate.
  - e. In '[exercising] assuring the exercise of' the powers conferred '[upon it]' by this act, '[an arbitral tribunal or other panel] the participants to an arbitration' may apply for assistance from any court '[, tribunal, or governmental authority in any] of competent' jurisdiction. Any application to a court hereunder shall be made and heard in a summary way in the manner provided for the making and hearing of motions, except as otherwise herein expressly provided.

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7. An arbitral tribunal or panel established pursuant to section 6 of this act may <sup>1</sup>[summon] subpoena<sup>1</sup> in writing any person to attend before it as a witness and to bring books, papers, records, and documents. The <sup>1</sup>[summons] subpoena <sup>1</sup> shall issue in the name of the arbitral tribunal or panel and be signed by a majority of the tribunal or panel, shall be directed to the person being summoned, and shall be served in the same manner as subpoenas to testify before a court of this State. If any person [summoned] subpoenaed<sup>1</sup> to testify refuses or neglects to obey the <sup>1</sup>[summons] subpoena<sup>1</sup>, upon petition <sup>1</sup>[the Superior Court] a court of competent jurisdiction<sup>1</sup> may compel the attendance of that person before the arbitral tribunal or panel, or punish that person for contempt in the same manner now provided for the attendance of witnesses or punishment in a court of this State. <sup>1</sup>The arbitral panel may also consider and take action within the arbitration, as deemed appropriate by the arbitral tribunal, in response to non-attendance by any subpoenaed person.<sup>1</sup>

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8. a. Arbitral <sup>1</sup>[or other]<sup>1</sup> awards <sup>1</sup>[or settlements]<sup>1</sup> issued pursuant to this act by a center shall be enforced by <sup>1</sup>[the courts of this State] any court of competent jurisdiction <sup>1</sup> as permitted by law and consistent with the Federal Arbitration Act (9 U.S.C. s.1 et

#### S602 [1R]

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seq.), and the enforcement provisions of the Convention on the 1 2 Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, as 3 implemented by the Federal Arbitration Act, except as provided in 4 subsection b. of this section. 5 b. If the parties specifically submit to jurisdiction under this act 6 pursuant to section 4 of this act, the center may require those parties 7 residing in countries not signatories to the Convention on the 8 Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, as 9 implemented by the Federal Arbitration Act, and not having sufficient assets otherwise within the jurisdiction of the courts of 10 this State, to post any bonds or other security as the center shall 11 12 deem appropriate to assure reasonable likelihood of enforcement of 13 any award or other relief ultimately ordered by the center in the 14 proceeding. 15 16 9. This act shall take effect on the 90th day next following 17 enactment. 18 19 20 21

22 "New Jersey International Arbitration, Mediation, and Conciliation Act."

# SENATE, No. 602

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

# 217th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2016 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator SANDRA B. CUNNINGHAM

District 31 (Hudson)

Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

**District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)** 

#### **SYNOPSIS**

"New Jersey International Arbitration, Mediation, and Conciliation Act."

#### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning international arbitration and supplementing 2 Title 2A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "New Jersey International Arbitration, Mediation, and Conciliation Act."

- 2. The Legislature finds and declares that:
- a. The State of New Jersey is in a unique position to benefit from the growth of international trade, and the State's position in the region provides important opportunities for the State to participate in international business, trade, and commerce;
- b. There will inevitably arise, from time to time, disagreements and disputes arising from international commercial transactions that are amenable to resolution through international arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other forms of dispute resolution in lieu of international litigation;
- c. It is the policy of this State to encourage the use of arbitration, mediation, and conciliation to reduce disputes arising out of international business, trade, commercial, and other relationships; and
- d. It is declared that the objective of encouraging the development of New Jersey as an international center for the resolution of international business, commercial, trade, and other disputes be supported through the establishment of certain legal authorities, as set forth in this act.

- 3. As used in this act:
- "Arbitration" means arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other forms of dispute resolution as an alternative to international litigation.
- "Center" means any center organized by a public research university, whose principal purpose is to facilitate the resolution of international business, trade, commercial, and other disputes between persons by means of arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other means as an alternative to litigation.
- "Person" means corporation, company, association, society, firm, partnership and joint stock company, as well as an individual, and includes any government, or agency, instrumentality, or subdivision thereof.
- "Resident of the United States" means a person who maintains sole residence within a state, possession, commonwealth, or territory of the United States or within the District of Columbia.
- "Written undertaking to arbitrate" means a writing in which a person undertakes to submit a dispute to arbitration, without regard to whether that undertaking is sufficient to sustain a valid and

enforceable contract or is subject to defenses. A written undertaking may be part of a contract, may be a separate writing, and may be contained in correspondence, telegrams, telexes, or any other form of written communication.

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- 4. a. This act shall apply only to the arbitration of disputes between:
- (1) two or more persons at least one of whom is a nonresident of the United States; or
- (2) two or more persons all of whom are residents of the United States if the dispute:
  - (a) involves property located outside the United States;
- (b) relates to a contract which envisages enforcement or performance in whole or in part outside the United States; or
  - (c) bears some other relation to one or more foreign countries.
- b. Notwithstanding subsection a. of this section, this act shall not apply to the arbitration of:
- (1) any dispute pertaining to the ownership, use, development, or possession of, or a lien of record upon, real property located in this State, unless the parties expressly submit the resolution of that dispute to this act; or
  - (2) any dispute involving family or domestic relations law.
- c. If, in any arbitration within the scope of this act, reference must be made, under applicable conflict of laws principles, to the arbitration law of this State, that reference shall be to this act.
- d. This act shall apply to any arbitration within the scope of this act, without regard to whether the place of arbitration is within or without this State:
- (1) if the written undertaking to arbitrate expressly provides that the laws of this State shall apply;
- (2) in the absence of a choice of law provision applicable to the written undertaking to arbitrate, if that undertaking forms part of a contract the interpretation of which is to be governed by the laws of this State; or
- (3) in any other case, any arbitral tribunal or other panel established pursuant to this act that decides under applicable conflict of laws principles that the arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the laws of this State.

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5. Conducting arbitration in this State, or making a written agreement to arbitrate which provides for arbitration within this State subject to this act, shall constitute a consent by the parties to that arbitration or undertaking to the exercise of in personam jurisdiction by the courts of this State, but only for the purposes of that arbitration.

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6. a. A center shall not be considered a department, agency, or public instrumentality of this State, and shall not be subject to the

- laws of this State applying to departments, agencies, or public instrumentalities of this State, except that a center shall be subject to all of the laws of this State pertaining to public institutions of higher education.
  - b. A center shall permit the participants to an arbitration to select any body of rules and procedures for the conduct, administration, and facilitation of that proceeding, whether those rules and procedures have been prepared by private arbitral organizations, created by the participants themselves, or by the center.
  - c. A center shall have the authority to establish rules and procedures for the conduct, administration, and facilitation of the resolution of all disputes subject to this act.
  - d. A center shall have the authority to adopt rules providing, without limitation and by way of illustration only, for the establishment of arbitral tribunals or other panels, which shall provide that arbitral tribunals or other panels may:
  - (1) determine the relevance and materiality of the evidence without the need to follow formal rules of evidence;
  - (2) be able to utilize any lawful methods that it deems appropriate to obtain evidence additional to that produced by the parties;
  - (3) issue summons or other demands for the attendance of witnesses or for the production of books, records, documents, and other evidence;
  - (4) be empowered to administer oaths, order depositions to be taken or other discovery obtained, without regard to the place where the witness or other evidence is located, and appoint one or more experts to report to it;
  - (5) fix any fees for the attendance of witnesses it deems appropriate; and
  - (6) make awards of interest, reasonable attorney's fees and costs of arbitration as agreed to in writing by the parties, or in the absence of an agreement, as it deems appropriate.
  - e. In exercising the powers conferred upon it by this act, an arbitral tribunal or other panel may apply for assistance from any court, tribunal, or governmental authority in any jurisdiction. Any application to a court hereunder shall be made and heard in a summary way in the manner provided for the making and hearing of motions, except as otherwise herein expressly provided.

7. An arbitral tribunal or panel established pursuant to section 6 of this act may summon in writing any person to attend before it as a witness and to bring books, papers, records, and documents. The summons shall issue in the name of the arbitral tribunal or panel and be signed by a majority of the tribunal or panel, shall be directed to the person being summoned, and shall be served in the same manner as subpoenas to testify before a court of this State. If

any person summoned to testify refuses or neglects to obey the summons, upon petition the Superior Court may compel the attendance of that person before the arbitral tribunal or panel, or punish that person for contempt in the same manner now provided for the attendance of witnesses or punishment in a court of this State.

- 8. a. Arbitral or other awards or settlements issued pursuant to this act by a center shall be enforced by the courts of this State as permitted by law and consistent with the Federal Arbitration Act (9 U.S.C. s.1 et seq.), and the enforcement provisions of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, as implemented by the Federal Arbitration Act, except as provided in subsection b. of this section.
- b. If the parties specifically submit to jurisdiction under this act pursuant to section 4 of this act, the center may require those parties residing in countries not signatories to the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, as implemented by the Federal Arbitration Act, and not having sufficient assets otherwise within the jurisdiction of the courts of this State, to post any bonds or other security as the center shall deem appropriate to assure reasonable likelihood of enforcement of any award or other relief ultimately ordered by the center in the proceeding.

9. This act shall take effect on the 90th day next following enactment.

#### STATEMENT

This bill, the "New Jersey International Arbitration, Mediation, and Conciliation Act," establishes a process for the facilitation and recognition of international alternative dispute resolution in the State of New Jersey.

The bill allows public research universities in the State to organize centers, whose principal purpose is to facilitate the resolution of international business, trade, commercial, and other disputes between persons by means of arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other means as an alternative to the resort to litigation.

As defined in the bill, "arbitration" means arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other forms of dispute resolution as an alternative to international litigation.

The bill applies to the arbitration of disputes between: two or more persons at least one of whom is a nonresident of the United States; or two or more persons all of whom are residents of the United States if the dispute: (1) involves property located outside

the United States; (2) relates to a contract which envisages enforcement or performance in whole or in part outside the United States; or (3) bears some other relation to one or more foreign countries. The bill does not apply to any dispute pertaining to real property located in this State, unless the parties expressly submit to the resolution of that dispute, or to any dispute involving family or domestic relations law. The bill provides that it may apply to arbitrations that take place outside of the State, if the parties to those arbitrations expressly agree that the laws of this State should apply.

The bill provides that conducting arbitration in this State, or making a written agreement to arbitrate which provides for arbitration within this State, shall constitute a consent by the parties to the exercise of in personam jurisdiction by the courts of this State, but only for the purposes of that arbitration.

Under the bill, a center shall not be considered a department, agency, or public instrumentality of this State, and shall not be subject to the laws of this State applying to departments, agencies, or public instrumentalities of this State, except that a center shall be subject to all of the laws of this State pertaining to public institutions of higher education.

The bill provides that centers must permit the participants to an arbitration to select any body of rules and procedures for the conduct, administration, and facilitation of that proceeding, whether those rules and procedures have been prepared by private arbitral organizations, created by the participants themselves, or by the center. Centers have the authority to establish rules and procedures for the conduct, administration, and facilitation of the resolution of all disputes subject to the bill.

The bill also provides that centers have the authority to adopt rules providing, without limitation and by way of illustration only, for the establishment of arbitral tribunals or other panels, which in turn have the authority to establish certain rules and procedures. Arbitral tribunals or other panels also have the power to summon in writing any person to attend before it as a witness and to bring books, papers, records, and documents.

Arbitral or other awards or settlements issued pursuant to the bill by a center are to be enforced by the courts of this State as permitted by law and consistent with the Federal Arbitration Act and the enforcement provisions of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, as implemented by the Federal Arbitration Act. If the parties specifically submit to jurisdiction under the bill, a center may require those parties residing in countries not signatories to the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards and not having sufficient assets otherwise within the jurisdiction of the courts of this State, to post bonds or other security.

#### ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

#### STATEMENT TO

# [First Reprint] **SENATE, No. 602**

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 13, 2016

The Assembly Judiciary Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 602 (1R).

This bill, the "New Jersey International Arbitration, Mediation, and Conciliation Act," establishes a process for the facilitation and recognition of international alternative dispute resolution in the State of New Jersey.

The bill allows certain types of non-profit entities in the State to organize centers, whose principal purpose is to facilitate the resolution of international business, trade, commercial, and other disputes between persons by means of arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other means as an alternative to the resort to litigation.

The bill applies to the arbitration of disputes between: two or more persons, at least one of whom is a nonresident of the United States; or two or more persons, all of whom are residents of the United States if the dispute: (1) involves property located outside the United States; (2) relates to a contract which envisages enforcement or performance in whole or in part outside the United States; or (3) bears some other relation to one or more foreign countries. The bill does not apply to any dispute pertaining to real property located in this State, unless the parties expressly submit to the resolution of that dispute, or to any dispute involving family or domestic relations law. The bill provides that it may apply to arbitrations that take place outside of the State, if the parties to those arbitrations expressly agree that the laws of this State should apply.

The bill provides that conducting arbitration in this State, or making a written agreement to arbitrate which provides for arbitration within this State, shall constitute a consent by the parties to the exercise of in personam jurisdiction by the courts of this State, but only for the purposes of that arbitration.

Under the bill, a center shall not be considered a department, agency, or public instrumentality of this State, and shall not be subject to the laws of this State applying to departments, agencies, or public instrumentalities of this State.

The bill provides that centers must permit the participants to an arbitration to select any body of rules and procedures for the conduct, administration, and facilitation of that proceeding, whether those rules and procedures have been prepared by private arbitral organizations, created by the participants themselves, or by the center. Centers have the authority to establish rules and procedures for the conduct, administration, and facilitation of the resolution of all disputes subject to the bill.

The bill also provides that centers have the authority to adopt rules regarding arbitral tribunals or other panels which may provide for the tribunal or panel to issue subpoenas or other requests for the attendance of witnesses or for the production of books, records, documents, and other evidence.

Arbitral or other awards or settlements issued pursuant to the bill by a center are to be enforced by any court of competent jurisdiction as permitted by law and consistent with the Federal Arbitration Act and the enforcement provisions of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, as implemented by the Federal Arbitration Act. If the parties specifically submit to jurisdiction under the bill, a center may require those parties residing in countries not signatories to the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards and not having sufficient assets otherwise within the jurisdiction of the courts of this State, to post bonds or other security.

This bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 1138(1R), which was also considered and released by the committee on this date.

#### SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

#### STATEMENT TO

#### SENATE, No. 602

with committee amendments

### STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 8, 2016

The Senate Commerce Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 602.

This amended bill, the "New Jersey International Arbitration, Mediation, and Conciliation Act," establishes a process for the facilitation and recognition of international alternative dispute resolution in the State of New Jersey.

The bill, as amended, allows certain types of non-profit entities in the State to organize centers, whose principal purpose is to facilitate the resolution of international business, trade, commercial, and other disputes between persons by means of arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other means as an alternative to the resort to litigation.

The bill applies to the arbitration of disputes between: two or more persons, at least one of whom is a nonresident of the United States; or two or more persons, all of whom are residents of the United States if the dispute: (1) involves property located outside the United States; (2) relates to a contract which envisages enforcement or performance in whole or in part outside the United States; or (3) bears some other relation to one or more foreign countries. The bill does not apply to any dispute pertaining to real property located in this State, unless the parties expressly submit to the resolution of that dispute, or to any dispute involving family or domestic relations law. The bill provides that it may apply to arbitrations that take place outside of the State, if the parties to those arbitrations expressly agree that the laws of this State should apply.

The bill provides that conducting arbitration in this State, or making a written agreement to arbitrate which provides for arbitration within this State, shall constitute a consent by the parties to the exercise of in personam jurisdiction by the courts of this State, but only for the purposes of that arbitration.

Under the bill, as amended, a center shall not be considered a department, agency, or public instrumentality of this State, and shall not be subject to the laws of this State applying to departments, agencies, or public instrumentalities of this State.

The bill provides that centers must permit the participants to an arbitration to select any body of rules and procedures for the conduct, administration, and facilitation of that proceeding, whether those rules and procedures have been prepared by private arbitral organizations, created by the participants themselves, or by the center. Centers have the authority to establish rules and procedures for the conduct, administration, and facilitation of the resolution of all disputes subject to the bill.

The bill also provides that centers have the authority to adopt rules providing, without limitation and by way of illustration only, for the establishment of arbitral tribunals or other panels, which in turn have the authority to establish certain rules and procedures. Arbitral tribunals or other panels also have the power to summon in writing any person to attend before it as a witness and to bring books, papers, records, and documents.

Arbitral or other awards or settlements issued pursuant to the bill by a center are to be enforced by any court of competent jurisdiction as permitted by law and consistent with the Federal Arbitration Act and the enforcement provisions of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, as implemented by the Federal Arbitration Act. If the parties specifically submit to jurisdiction under the bill, a center may require those parties residing in countries not signatories to the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards and not having sufficient assets otherwise within the jurisdiction of the courts of this State, to post bonds or other security.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2016-2017 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

#### **COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:**

The committee amendments:

- Remove the definition of "arbitration;"
- Add a definition of "arbitral award," which means an award signed by an arbitrator that may be the result of a settlement in arbitration, mediation, conciliation or other form of dispute resolution that involves the assistance of a neutral;
- Modify the definition of "center" to mean any center organized, instead of by a public research university, as a nonprofit entity, whose principal purpose is to facilitate the resolution of international business, trade, commercial, and other disputes between persons by means of arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other means as an alternative to litigation;
- Revise the definition of "person;"

- Clarify that a center may adopt rules regarding arbitral tribunals or other panels which may provide for the tribunal or panel to issue subpoenas or other requests for the attendance of witnesses or for the production of books, records, documents, and other evidence;
- Provide that in assuring the exercise of the powers conferred by the bill, the participants in an arbitration may apply for assistance from any court of competent jurisdiction;
- Clarify that an arbitral tribunal or panel may subpoena in writing any person to attend before it as a witness and to bring documents and, upon petition, a court of competent jurisdiction may compel the attendance of the person before the arbitral tribunal or panel, or punish that person for contempt in the same manner now provided for the attendance of witnesses or punishment in a court of this State. The arbitral panel may also consider and take action within the arbitration, as deemed appropriate by the arbitral tribunal, in response to non-attendance by any subpoenaed person;
- Provide that arbitral awards issued pursuant to the bill shall be enforced by any court of competent jurisdiction as permitted by law.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 1138

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

### 217th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2016 SESSION

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman JAMEL C. HOLLEY
District 20 (Union)
Assemblyman NICHOLAS CHIARAVALLOTI
District 31 (Hudson)

#### **SYNOPSIS**

"New Jersey International Arbitration, Mediation, and Conciliation Act."

#### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/14/2016)

1 AN ACT concerning international arbitration and supplementing 2 Title 2A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "New Jersey International Arbitration, Mediation, and Conciliation Act."

- 2. The Legislature finds and declares that:
- a. The State of New Jersey is in a unique position to benefit from the growth of international trade, and the State's position in the region provides important opportunities for the State to participate in international business, trade, and commerce;
- b. There will inevitably arise, from time to time, disagreements and disputes arising from international commercial transactions that are amenable to resolution through international arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other forms of dispute resolution in lieu of international litigation;
- c. It is the policy of this State to encourage the use of arbitration, mediation, and conciliation to reduce disputes arising out of international business, trade, commercial, and other relationships; and
- d. It is declared that the objective of encouraging the development of New Jersey as an international center for the resolution of international business, commercial, trade, and other disputes be supported through the establishment of certain legal authorities, as set forth in this act.

- 3. As used in this act:
- "Arbitration" means arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other forms of dispute resolution as an alternative to international litigation.
- "Center" means any center organized by a public research university, whose principal purpose is to facilitate the resolution of international business, trade, commercial, and other disputes between persons by means of arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other means as an alternative to litigation.
- "Person" means corporation, company, association, society, firm, partnership and joint stock company, as well as an individual, and includes any government, or agency, instrumentality, or subdivision thereof.
- "Resident of the United States" means a person who maintains sole residence within a state, possession, commonwealth, or territory of the United States or within the District of Columbia.
- "Written undertaking to arbitrate" means a writing in which a person undertakes to submit a dispute to arbitration, without regard to whether that undertaking is sufficient to sustain a valid and

enforceable contract or is subject to defenses. A written undertaking may be part of a contract, may be a separate writing, and may be contained in correspondence, telegrams, telexes, or any other form of written communication.

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- 4. a. This act shall apply only to the arbitration of disputes between:
- (1) two or more persons at least one of whom is a nonresident of the United States; or
- (2) two or more persons all of whom are residents of the United States if the dispute:
  - (a) involves property located outside the United States;
- (b) relates to a contract which envisages enforcement or performance in whole or in part outside the United States; or
  - (c) bears some other relation to one or more foreign countries.
- b. Notwithstanding subsection a. of this section, this act shall not apply to the arbitration of:
- (1) any dispute pertaining to the ownership, use, development, or possession of, or a lien of record upon, real property located in this State, unless the parties expressly submit the resolution of that dispute to this act; or
  - (2) any dispute involving family or domestic relations law.
- c. If, in any arbitration within the scope of this act, reference must be made, under applicable conflict of laws principles, to the arbitration law of this State, that reference shall be to this act.
- d. This act shall apply to any arbitration within the scope of this act, without regard to whether the place of arbitration is within or without this State:
- (1) if the written undertaking to arbitrate expressly provides that the laws of this State shall apply;
- (2) in the absence of a choice of law provision applicable to the written undertaking to arbitrate, if that undertaking forms part of a contract the interpretation of which is to be governed by the laws of this State; or
- (3) in any other case, any arbitral tribunal or other panel established pursuant to this act that decides under applicable conflict of laws principles that the arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the laws of this State.

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5. Conducting arbitration in this State, or making a written agreement to arbitrate which provides for arbitration within this State subject to this act, shall constitute a consent by the parties to that arbitration or undertaking to the exercise of in personam jurisdiction by the courts of this State, but only for the purposes of that arbitration.

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6. a. A center shall not be considered a department, agency, or public instrumentality of this State, and shall not be subject to the

laws of this State applying to departments, agencies, or public 1 2 instrumentalities of this State, except that a center shall be subject 3 to all of the laws of this State pertaining to public institutions of 4 higher education.

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- b. A center shall permit the participants to an arbitration to select any body of rules and procedures for the conduct, administration, and facilitation of that proceeding, whether those rules and procedures have been prepared by private arbitral organizations, created by the participants themselves, or by the center.
- A center shall have the authority to establish rules and procedures for the conduct, administration, and facilitation of the resolution of all disputes subject to this act.
- d. A center shall have the authority to adopt rules providing, without limitation and by way of illustration only, for the establishment of arbitral tribunals or other panels, which shall provide that arbitral tribunals or other panels may:
- (1) determine the relevance and materiality of the evidence without the need to follow formal rules of evidence;
- (2) be able to utilize any lawful methods that it deems appropriate to obtain evidence additional to that produced by the parties;
- (3) issue summons or other demands for the attendance of witnesses or for the production of books, records, documents, and other evidence;
- (4) be empowered to administer oaths, order depositions to be taken or other discovery obtained, without regard to the place where the witness or other evidence is located, and appoint one or more experts to report to it;
- (5) fix any fees for the attendance of witnesses it deems appropriate; and
- (6) make awards of interest, reasonable attorney's fees and costs of arbitration as agreed to in writing by the parties, or in the absence of an agreement, as it deems appropriate.
- e. In exercising the powers conferred upon it by this act, an arbitral tribunal or other panel may apply for assistance from any court, tribunal, or governmental authority in any jurisdiction. Any application to a court hereunder shall be made and heard in a summary way in the manner provided for the making and hearing of motions, except as otherwise herein expressly provided.

7. An arbitral tribunal or panel established pursuant to section 6 of this act may summon in writing any person to attend before it as a witness and to bring books, papers, records, and documents. The summons shall issue in the name of the arbitral tribunal or panel and be signed by a majority of the tribunal or panel, shall be directed to the person being summoned, and shall be served in the same manner as subpoenas to testify before a court of this State. If any person summoned to testify refuses or neglects to obey the summons, upon petition the Superior Court may compel the attendance of that person before the arbitral tribunal or panel, or punish that person for contempt in the same manner now provided for the attendance of witnesses or punishment in a court of this State.

- 8. a. Arbitral or other awards or settlements issued pursuant to this act by a center shall be enforced by the courts of this State as permitted by law and consistent with the Federal Arbitration Act (9 U.S.C. s.1 et seq.), and the enforcement provisions of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, as implemented by the Federal Arbitration Act, except as provided in subsection b. of this section.
- b. If the parties specifically submit to jurisdiction under this act pursuant to section 4 of this act, the center may require those parties residing in countries not signatories to the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, as implemented by the Federal Arbitration Act, and not having sufficient assets otherwise within the jurisdiction of the courts of this State, to post any bonds or other security as the center shall deem appropriate to assure reasonable likelihood of enforcement of any award or other relief ultimately ordered by the center in the proceeding.

9. This act shall take effect on the 90th day next following enactment.

#### STATEMENT

This bill, the "New Jersey International Arbitration, Mediation, and Conciliation Act," establishes a process for the facilitation and recognition of international alternative dispute resolution in the State of New Jersey.

The bill allows public research universities in the State to organize centers, whose principal purpose is to facilitate the resolution of international business, trade, commercial, and other disputes between persons by means of arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other means as an alternative to the resort to litigation.

As defined in the bill, "arbitration" means arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other forms of dispute resolution as an alternative to international litigation.

The bill applies to the arbitration of disputes between: two or more persons at least one of whom is a nonresident of the United States; or two or more persons all of whom are residents of the United States if the dispute: (1) involves property located outside

the United States; (2) relates to a contract which envisages enforcement or performance in whole or in part outside the United States; or (3) bears some other relation to one or more foreign countries. The bill does not apply to any dispute pertaining to real property located in this State, unless the parties expressly submit to the resolution of that dispute, or to any dispute involving family or domestic relations law. The bill provides that it may apply to arbitrations that take place outside of the State, if the parties to those arbitrations expressly agree that the laws of this State should apply.

The bill provides that conducting arbitration in this State, or making a written agreement to arbitrate which provides for arbitration within this State, shall constitute a consent by the parties to the exercise of in personam jurisdiction by the courts of this State, but only for the purposes of that arbitration.

Under the bill, a center shall not be considered a department, agency, or public instrumentality of this State, and shall not be subject to the laws of this State applying to departments, agencies, or public instrumentalities of this State, except that a center shall be subject to all of the laws of this State pertaining to public institutions of higher education.

The bill provides that centers must permit the participants to an arbitration to select any body of rules and procedures for the conduct, administration, and facilitation of that proceeding, whether those rules and procedures have been prepared by private arbitral organizations, created by the participants themselves, or by the center. Centers have the authority to establish rules and procedures for the conduct, administration, and facilitation of the resolution of all disputes subject to the bill.

The bill also provides that centers have the authority to adopt rules providing, without limitation and by way of illustration only, for the establishment of arbitral tribunals or other panels, which in turn have the authority to establish certain rules and procedures. Arbitral tribunals or other panels also have the power to summon in writing any person to attend before it as a witness and to bring books, papers, records, and documents.

Arbitral or other awards or settlements issued pursuant to the bill by a center are to be enforced by the courts of this State as permitted by law and consistent with the Federal Arbitration Act and the enforcement provisions of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, as implemented by the Federal Arbitration Act. If the parties specifically submit to jurisdiction under the bill, a center may require those parties residing in countries not signatories to the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards and not having sufficient assets otherwise within the jurisdiction of the courts of this State, to post bonds or other security.

#### ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

#### STATEMENT TO

#### ASSEMBLY, No. 1138

with committee amendments

### STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 13, 2016

The Assembly Judiciary Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 1138.

This bill, the "New Jersey International Arbitration, Mediation, and Conciliation Act," establishes a process for the facilitation and recognition of international alternative dispute resolution in the State of New Jersey.

The bill as amended allows certain types of non-profit entities in the State to organize centers, whose principal purpose is to facilitate the resolution of international business, trade, commercial, and other disputes between persons by means of arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other means as an alternative to the resort to litigation.

As defined in the bill, "arbitration" means arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other forms of dispute resolution as an alternative to international litigation.

The bill applies to the arbitration of disputes between: two or more persons at least one of whom is a nonresident of the United States; or two or more persons all of whom are residents of the United States if the dispute: (1) involves property located outside the United States; (2) relates to a contract which envisages enforcement or performance in whole or in part outside the United States; or (3) bears some other relation to one or more foreign countries. The bill does not apply to any dispute pertaining to real property located in this State, unless the parties expressly submit to the resolution of that dispute, or to any dispute involving family or domestic relations law. The bill provides that it may apply to arbitrations that take place outside of the State, if the parties to those arbitrations expressly agree that the laws of this State should apply.

The bill provides that conducting arbitration in this State, or making a written agreement to arbitrate which provides for arbitration within this State, shall constitute a consent by the parties to the exercise of in personam jurisdiction by the courts of this State, but only for the purposes of that arbitration.

Under the bill, a center shall not be considered a department, agency, or public instrumentality of this State, and shall not be

subject to the laws of this State applying to departments, agencies, or public instrumentalities of this State, except that a center shall be subject to all of the laws of this State pertaining to public institutions of higher education.

The bill provides that centers must permit the participants to an arbitration to select any body of rules and procedures for the conduct, administration, and facilitation of that proceeding, whether those rules and procedures have been prepared by private arbitral organizations, created by the participants themselves, or by the center. Centers have the authority to establish rules and procedures for the conduct, administration, and facilitation of the resolution of all disputes subject to the bill.

The bill also provides that centers have the authority to adopt rules providing, without limitation and by way of illustration only, for the establishment of arbitral tribunals or other panels, which in turn have the authority to establish certain rules and procedures. Arbitral tribunals or other panels also have the power to summon in writing any person to attend before it as a witness and to bring books, papers, records, and documents.

Arbitral or other awards or settlements issued pursuant to the bill by a center are to be enforced by the courts of this State as permitted by law and consistent with the Federal Arbitration Act and the enforcement provisions of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, as implemented by the Federal Arbitration Act. If the parties specifically submit to jurisdiction under the bill, a center may require those parties residing in countries not signatories to the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards and not having sufficient assets otherwise within the jurisdiction of the courts of this State, to post bonds or other security.

The committee amendments make various clarifications to the bill, including changing the definition of "center" to mean any center organized as a non-profit entity, whose principal purpose is to facilitate the resolution of international business, trade, commercial, and other disputes.

These amendments make this bill identical to Senate Bill No. 602(1R), which was also considered and released by the committee on this date.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2016-2017 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

#### **COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:**

- 1. Remove the definition of "arbitration."
- 2. Add a definition of "arbitral award," which means an award signed by an arbitrator that may be the result of a settlement in

arbitration, mediation, conciliation or other form of dispute resolution that involves the assistance of a neutral.

- 3. Modify the definition of "center" to mean any center organized, instead of by a public research university, as a non-profit entity, whose principal purpose is to facilitate the resolution of international business, trade, commercial, and other disputes between persons by means of arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and other means as an alternative to litigation.
  - 4. Revise the definition of "person."
- 5. Clarify that a center may adopt rules regarding arbitral tribunals or other panels which may provide for the tribunal or panel to issue subpoenas or other requests for the attendance of witnesses or for the production of books, records, documents, and other evidence.
- 6. Provide that in assuring the exercise of the powers conferred by the bill, the participants in an arbitration may apply for assistance from any court of competent jurisdiction.
- 7. Clarify that an arbitral tribunal or panel may subpoena in writing any person to attend before it as a witness and to bring documents and, upon petition, a court of competent jurisdiction may compel the attendance of the person before the arbitral tribunal or panel, or punish that person for contempt in the same manner now provided for the attendance of witnesses or punishment in a court of this State. The arbitral panel may also consider and take action within the arbitration, as deemed appropriate by the arbitral tribunal, in response to non-attendance by any subpoenaed person.
- 8. Provide that arbitral awards issued pursuant to the bill shall be enforced by any court of competent jurisdiction as permitted by law.

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#### Governor Chris Christie Takes Action On Pending Legislation

Monday, February 6, 2017

Tags: Bill Action

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**Trenton, NJ** – Governor Chris Christie today signed legislation, S-2156/A-3424, requiring medical professionals to educate children and teenagers about addiction risks before issuing prescription drugs.

"This critical prevention legislation will stem the growing tide of drug addiction in New Jersey that has been largely caused by the misuse of prescription drugs or prescription drugs getting into the wrong hands," Governor Christie said. "Coupled with dozens of other new reforms underway, including a comprehensive in-school curriculum for kindergarteners through 12th graders, we can stop this fatal disease from decimating another generation. Piece by piece, I am proud that my administration, with bipartisan cooperation from the legislature, is creating a holistic model for America to curb this epidemic impacting all residents, families, communities and businesses."

Governor Christie also took action on the following legislation:

#### **BILL SIGNINGS:**

S-602/A-1138 (Cunningham, T. Kean/Holley, Chiaravalloti) - "New Jersey International Arbitration, Mediation, and Conciliation Act"

SCS for S-727/A-3955 (Cruz-Perez, Van Drew/Barclay, Wimberly, Holley) - "New Jersey Open Data Initiative" to require certain information be provided on Internet to public and State agencies

S-879/A-4237 (Greenstein, Bateman/Sumter, Benson) - Prohibits termination of law enforcement officer or firefighter based upon determination that officer or firefighter is physically unable to perform duties under certain circumstances

S-1066/A-3649 (Singer, Beck/S. Kean, Rible, Mukherji, Pinkin, Vainieri Huttle, Schaer) - Allows filing of birth certificate to be delayed for religious reasons, for up to 15 days after birth, in order to allow for naming of child

S-1131/A-3489 (Rice/Tucker, Houghtaling, Mukherji, Wimberly) - Provides for notification of emergency contact in event of death of senior citizen in certain housing facilities

S-1474/A-2786 (Ruiz/Benson, Sumter, Caride, McKnight, Vainieri Huttle, Pintor Marin, Wimberly) - Requires teacher preparation program for instructional certificate to include certain amount of instruction or clinical experience in special education and for students with disabilities endorsement to include credit hours in autism spectrum disorder

S-1830/A-3411 (Rice, Vitale, Turner/Muoio, Benson, Singleton, Greenwald, Pinkin, Downey, Sumter, Wimberly)
- Requires DOH regulations regarding elevated blood lead levels in children, and appropriate responses thereto, to be consistent with latest Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations

S-2156/A-3424 (Weinberg, Vitale/Lagana, Pinkin, Vainieri Huttle, Caride, Caputo, Wimberly, Moriarty) - Requires prescribers to discuss addiction risk associated with certain drugs prior to issuing prescription to minor patient

S-2321/A-3774 (Oroho, Beach/Burzichelli, Wisniewski, Mosquera, Houghtaling, Wimberly) - Concerns excessive price increases during state of emergency

S-2364/A-3946 (Oroho, Stack/Burzichelli, Dancer, Mukherji, Holley, A.M. Bucco) - Establishes pilot program appointing third party vendors to administer commercial driver license testing

S-2370/A-3904 (Whelan/Burzichelli) – Authorizes operation of lottery courier services

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S-2477/A-4083 (Sarlo, Oroho/Schaer, Space, Mukherji, Singleton) - Concerns certain unused portions of tax credits issued to insurance premiums taxpayers under the Business Employment Incentive Program; exempts certain purchasers of business development incentives from certain State tax notification requirements

S-2731/A-4326 (Greenstein, Bateman/Muoio, Burzichelli, Mazzeo, Mukherji) - Authorizes New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust to expend additional sums to make loans for environmental infrastructure projects for FY2017

S-2732/A-4327 (Codey, Gill/Zwicker, Conaway, Danielsen, Muoio, Mukherji, Gusciora) - Amends list of environmental infrastructure projects approved for long-term funding for FY2017 to include new projects and revise allowable loan amounts for already approved projects

#### BILLS VETOED:

S-600/A-3625 (Cunningham, Stack/McKnight, Chiaravalloti, Mukherji) – CONDITIONAL - Requires DOH to authorize Jersey City to issue certified copies of birth certificates by September 1, 2017

S-1585/A-3335 (Rice, Ruiz/Sumter, Pintor Marin, Wimberly, Mukherji, Gusciora) - - CONDITIONAL - Establishes program allowing certain applicants to perform community service in lieu of paying motor vehicle surcharges

S-2267/A-2771 (Diegnan, Greenstein/Webber, O'Scanlon, A.M. Bucco) - CONDITIONAL - Establishes asset forfeiture reporting requirements

S-2347/A-3723 (Rice, Ruiz/Pintor Marin, Giblin) – CONDITIONAL - Permits certain municipalities to impose and collect payroll tax of up to 1% of employer's payroll

S-2575/A-4187 (Sweeney, Whelan/Burzichelli) – ABSOLUTE - Disqualifies casino license applicant for five-year period if person substantially closed casino property in State; revokes license; reinstates license eligibility under certain circumstances

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