# 39:3-76.20 & 39:3-76.2p

# LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

Compiled by the NJ State Law Library

LAWS OF:	2017	CHAP	TER:	345			
NJSA:		39:3-76.20 & 39:3-76.2p (Establishes public awareness campaign concerning the dangers of leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles.)					
BILL NO:	A155	A155 (Substituted for S2609)					
SPONSOR(S)	Tucker and oth	ers					
DATE INTROD	DUCED: 1/27/20	016					
COMMITTEE:	ASSE	MBLY:	Wome	en & Children			
	SENA	TE:		Public Safety t & Appropriatior	าร		
AMENDED DU	RING PASSAG	E:	No				
DATE OF PAS	SAGE:	ASSE	MBLY:	9/29/2016			
		SENA	TE:	1/5/2018			
DATE OF APP	ROVAL:	1/16/20	018				
FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:							
FINAL TEXT OF BILL (Introduce			ed versi	on of bill enacted	(k	Yes	
A155 SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 3 of introduced bill) Yes							
	COMMITTEE	STATEM	IENT:		ASSEMBLY:	Yes	Women & Children
					SENATE:	Yes	Law & Public Safety Budget & Appropriations
(Audio archived	t recordings of th	e comm	ittee mee	etinas correspon	ding to the date (	of the co	mmittee statement <b>may noss</b>

(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:		Yes	
S2609			
SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page	3 of introduced bill)	) Yes	
COMMITTEE STATEMENT:	ASSEMBLY:	No	
	SENATE:	Yes	Law & Public Safety Budget & Appropriations

(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:	Yes	
VETO MESSAGE:	No	
GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:	No	
FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED: To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org		
REPORTS:	No	
HEARINGS:	No	
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:	No	

RH/CL

#### P.L. 2017, CHAPTER 345, *approved January 16, 2018* Assembly, No. 155

AN ACT concerning unattended children in motor vehicles and
 supplementing Title 39 of the Revised Statutes.

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

1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

3 4

5

6 7

32

8 a. Statistics show that, on average, 38 children die each year 9 from heat-related deaths after being trapped inside motor vehicles, 10 and even the most well intentioned parents or caregivers can 11 unknowingly leave a sleeping baby in a car resulting in the child's 12 injury or even death.

b. The temperature of a vehicle, even with an open window,
can rise rapidly and a child may easily incur heat stroke, causing
brain damage or death within minutes.

c. In addition to heat stroke, the consequences of leaving a
child unattended in and around a motor vehicle include the dangers
of abduction, strangulation, trunk entrapment, being run over, and
personal injuries caused by accidental and uncontrolled movement
of the vehicle.

d. While motor vehicle related injuries are a leading cause of death among children in the United States, the deaths and injuries caused by leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles are predictable and preventable and can be greatly reduced with increased awareness of the risks associated with this dangerous practice.

e. A public awareness campaign to provide information to, and promote educational programs for, families, teachers, and community members regarding the dangers of children being left unattended in and around motor vehicles is in the public interest and will serve the interests of public safety in this State.

2. a. The Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the
Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the
Department of Children and Families, shall establish a public
awareness campaign to provide information to the general public
concerning:

38 (1) the dangers of leaving a child unattended in and around a39 motor vehicle; and

40 (2) preventative measures that may be taken by parents or 41 guardians to promote child safety and protect against injuries or death caused by leaving a child unattended in and around a motor
 vehicle.

3 b. The Director of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety shall 4 provide printed and electronic educational materials concerning 5 child safety in and around motor vehicles and shall disseminate those materials: to child care centers licensed pursuant to P.L.1983, 6 7 c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.); at public venues throughout the State; 8 and by any other means as the director may determine, in 9 collaboration with, and with the assistance of, other State, county, and municipal governmental entities including, but not limited to, 10 11 distribution on the premises of, or through mail or electronic 12 communications by, any office that is open to members of the general public and is operated, administered, or used to provide 13 14 services to the general public by the Department of Children and 15 Families and the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission.

c. The Director of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety shall
report to the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant to section 2
of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), no later than 24 months after the
effective date of this act, on the activities and accomplishments of
the public awareness campaign.

- 3. This act shall take effect immediately.
- 23

21 22

- 24
- 25
- 26

Establishes public awareness campaign concerning the dangersof leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 155 **STATE OF NEW JERSEY** 217th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2016 SESSION

Sponsored by: Assemblywoman CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER District 28 (Essex) Assemblyman RALPH R. CAPUTO District 28 (Essex) Assemblyman THOMAS P. GIBLIN District 34 (Essex and Passaic) Assemblywoman GABRIELA M. MOSQUERA District 4 (Camden and Gloucester) Assemblywoman ANGELICA M. JIMENEZ District 32 (Bergen and Hudson) Assemblyman BENJIE E. WIMBERLY District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by: Assemblywoman N.Munoz and Assemblyman Holley

#### SYNOPSIS

Establishes public awareness campaign concerning the dangers of leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles.

HE



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

2

AN ACT concerning unattended children in motor vehicles and 1 2 supplementing Title 39 of the Revised Statutes. 3 4 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 5 of New Jersey: 6 7 1. The Legislature finds and declares that: 8 Statistics show that, on average, 38 children die each year a. 9 from heat-related deaths after being trapped inside motor vehicles, 10 and even the most well intentioned parents or caregivers can unknowingly leave a sleeping baby in a car resulting in the child's 11 12 injury or even death. 13 b. The temperature of a vehicle, even with an open window, 14 can rise rapidly and a child may easily incur heat stroke, causing 15 brain damage or death within minutes. 16 In addition to heat stroke, the consequences of leaving a c. 17 child unattended in and around a motor vehicle include the dangers 18 of abduction, strangulation, trunk entrapment, being run over, and 19 personal injuries caused by accidental and uncontrolled movement 20 of the vehicle. d. While motor vehicle related injuries are a leading cause of 21 22 death among children in the United States, the deaths and injuries 23 caused by leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles 24 are predictable and preventable and can be greatly reduced with 25 increased awareness of the risks associated with this dangerous 26 practice. 27 e. A public awareness campaign to provide information to, and 28 promote educational programs for, families, teachers, and 29 community members regarding the dangers of children being left 30 unattended in and around motor vehicles is in the public interest and will serve the interests of public safety in this State. 31 32 33 2. a. The Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department 34 of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the Department of Children and Families, shall establish a public awareness campaign 35 36 to provide information to the general public concerning: 37 (1) the dangers of leaving a child unattended in and around a 38 motor vehicle; and 39 (2) preventative measures that may be taken by parents or 40 guardians to promote child safety and protect against injuries or 41 death caused by leaving a child unattended in and around a motor 42 vehicle. 43 b. The Director of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety shall 44 provide printed and electronic educational materials concerning 45 child safety in and around motor vehicles and shall disseminate 46 those materials: to child care centers licensed pursuant to P.L.1983, 47 c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.); at public venues throughout the State; and by any other means as the director may determine, in 48

#### A155 TUCKER, CAPUTO

3

1 collaboration with, and with the assistance of, other State, county, 2 and municipal governmental entities including, but not limited to, 3 distribution on the premises of, or through mail or electronic 4 communications by, any office that is open to members of the 5 general public and is operated, administered, or used to provide 6 services to the general public by the Department of Children and 7 Families and the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission.

8 c. The Director of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety shall 9 report to the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 10 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), no later than 24 months after the 11 effective date of this act, on the activities and accomplishments of 12 the public awareness campaign.

14 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

15

13

- 16 17
- 17

#### STATEMENT

19 This bill requires the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the 20 Department of Children and Families, to establish a public 21 22 awareness campaign to provide information to the general public 23 concerning the dangers of leaving children unattended in and 24 around motor vehicles, and preventative measures that may be taken 25 by parents or guardians to promote child safety and protect against 26 unintended injury or death.

The division is required to provide printed and electronic educational materials concerning child safety in and around motor vehicles and to disseminate those materials: to licensed child care centers in the State; at public venues throughout the State; and by any other means the director may determine in collaboration with other governmental entities, including the Department of Children and Families and the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission.

The bill requires the division to report to the Governor and the Legislature concerning the activities and accomplishments of the public awareness campaign within two years of the bill's effective date.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 155

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

#### DATED: SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

The Assembly Women and Children Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 155.

This bill requires the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the Department of Children and Families, to establish a public awareness campaign to provide information to the general public concerning the dangers of leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles, and preventative measures that may be taken by parents or guardians to promote child safety and protect against unintended injury or death.

The division is required to provide printed and electronic educational materials concerning child safety in and around motor vehicles and to disseminate those materials: to licensed child care centers in the State; at public venues throughout the State; and by any other means the director may determine in collaboration with other governmental entities, including the Department of Children and Families and the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission.

The bill requires the division to report to the Governor and the Legislature concerning the activities and accomplishments of the public awareness campaign within two years of the bill's effective 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.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 155

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

#### DATED: FEBRUARY 6, 2017

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 155.

As reported by the committee, this bill requires the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the Department of Children and Families, to establish a public awareness campaign to inform the general public about the dangers of leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles and preventative measures that may be taken by parents or guardians to promote child safety and protect against unintended injury or death.

The division is required to provide printed and electronic educational materials concerning child safety in and around motor vehicles. The materials are to be disseminated at State-licensed child care centers and public venues throughout the State. The materials also may be disseminated on the premises of other governmental entities, such as those offices of the Department of Children and Families and the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission that are open to the general public.

The bill requires the division to report to the Governor and the Legislature the activities and accomplishments of the public awareness campaign within two years of the bill's effective date.

As reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 155 is identical to Senate Bill No. 2609, which also was reported by the committee on this same date.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 155

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

#### DATED: DECEMBER 14, 2017

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 155.

This bill requires the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the Department of Children and Families, to establish a public awareness campaign to inform the general public about the dangers of leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles and the preventative measures that may be taken by parents or guardians to promote child safety and protect against injury or death.

The bill requires the Director of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety to provide printed and electronic educational materials concerning child safety in and around motor vehicles. These materials are to be disseminated at State-licensed child care centers and public venues throughout the State. The materials also may be disseminated on the premises of other governmental entities, such as those offices of the Department of Children and Families and the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission that are open to the general public.

The bill requires the director of the division to report to the Governor and the Legislature on the activities and accomplishments of the public awareness campaign no later than 24 months after the bill's effective date.

The bill is scheduled to take effect immediately upon enactment.

As reported, this bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 2609, as also reported by the committee.

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services expects this bill will increase the annual expenditures of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety, but lacks sufficient information to quantify the increase. This expectation is based on the assumption that the division will experience a workload increase, especially in the first year following enactment, to compile relevant information, establish printed and electronic educational materials, disseminate these materials Statewide, and provide a report concerning the activities and accomplishments of the public awareness campaign in accordance with the bill.

# LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE ASSEMBLY, No. 155 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2016

## SUMMARY

Synopsis:	Establishes public awareness campaign concerning the dangers of leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles.
Type of Impact:	Indeterminate Expenditure Increase
Agencies Affected:	Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Highway Traffic Safety.

#### Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
State Cost	Inde	eterminate – See comments	below
State Revenue		None	

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes that the bill will increase the annual expenditures of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety by an indeterminate amount. Expenditures are likely to be higher in the first fiscal year than in subsequent years.
- The division will experience a workload increase from developing and conducting a public awareness campaign, consisting of printed and electronic educational materials, and providing a report to the Governor and the Legislature concerning the activities and accomplishments of the public awareness campaign.

# **BILL DESCRIPTION**

Assembly Bill No. 155 of 2016 requires the establishment of a public awareness campaign concerning the dangers of leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles.

The bill requires the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the Department of Children and Families, to establish a public awareness campaign to provide information to the general public concerning the dangers of leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles, and preventative measures that may be taken by parents or guardians to promote child safety and protect against unintended injury or death.



The division is required to provide printed and electronic educational materials concerning child safety in and around motor vehicles and to disseminate those materials: to licensed child care centers in the State; at public venues throughout the State; and by any other means the director may determine in collaboration with other governmental entities, including the Department of Children and Families and the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission.

The bill requires the division to report to the Governor and the Legislature concerning the activities and accomplishments of the public awareness campaign within two years of the bill's effective date.

#### FISCAL ANALYSIS

#### **EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

None received.

#### **OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES**

The OLS concludes that the bill will increase the annual operating expenses of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety by an indeterminate amount.

It is expected that the division will experience a workload increase to develop and implement the public awareness campaign. This would consist of compiling information, establishing printed and electronic educational materials, disseminating educational materials Statewide, and providing a report to the Governor and the Legislature concerning the activities and accomplishments of the public awareness campaign.

The division recently conducted a child safety seat campaign to provide awareness of the new changes in the safety seat laws. Information on the cost of the safety seat campaign, which could serve as a basis for estimating the impact of this bill, is unavailable to the OLS.

The OLS notes that there are reputable sources of information for use in a public awareness campaign. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) provides parents information on how to keep their children safe in and around motor vehicles (www.safercar.gov/parents/). Child safety organizations, such as Safe Kids, have a presence in New Jersey with ten chapters dedicated to providing a variety of educational materials and training concerning the safety of children inside and outside motor vehicles, including: pedestrian safety; safety in and around cars; child passenger safety; heatstroke awareness and prevention; and frontover and backover prevention.

Section:	Law and Public Safety
Analyst:	Kristin Brunner Santos Senior Fiscal Analyst
Approved:	Frank W. Haines III Legislative Budget and Finance Officer

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).

# SENATE, No. 2609 **STATE OF NEW JERSEY** 217th LEGISLATURE

**INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 29, 2016** 

Sponsored by: Senator M. TERESA RUIZ District 29 (Essex)

Co-Sponsored by: Senator Stack

#### SYNOPSIS

Establishes public awareness campaign concerning the dangers of leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles.

### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/19/2017)

# **S2609** RUIZ

1 AN ACT concerning unattended children in motor vehicles and 2 supplementing Title 39 of the Revised Statutes. 3 4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 5 of New Jersey: 6 7 1. The Legislature finds and declares that: 8 Statistics show that, on average, 38 children die each year a. 9 from heat-related deaths after being trapped inside motor vehicles, 10 and even the most well intentioned parents or caregivers can 11 unknowingly leave a sleeping baby in a car resulting in the child's 12 injury or even death. b. The temperature of a vehicle, even with an open window, 13 14 can rise rapidly and a child may easily incur heat stroke, causing brain damage or death within minutes. 15 16 In addition to heat stroke, the consequences of leaving a c. 17 child unattended in and around a motor vehicle include the dangers of abduction, strangulation, trunk entrapment, being run over, and 18 19 personal injuries caused by accidental and uncontrolled movement 20 of the vehicle. 21 d. While motor vehicle related injuries are a leading cause of death among children in the United States, the deaths and injuries 22 23 caused by leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles 24 are predictable and preventable and can be greatly reduced with 25 increased awareness of the risks associated with this dangerous 26 practice. 27 A public awareness campaign to provide information to, and e. 28 promote educational programs for, families, teachers, and 29 community members regarding the dangers of children being left 30 unattended in and around motor vehicles is in the public interest 31 and will serve the interests of public safety in this State. 32 33 2. a. The Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department 34 of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the Department of 35 Children and Families, shall establish a public awareness campaign to provide information to the general public concerning: 36 37 (1) the dangers of leaving a child unattended in and around a 38 motor vehicle; and 39 (2) preventative measures that may be taken by parents or 40 guardians to promote child safety and protect against injuries or 41 death caused by leaving a child unattended in and around a motor 42 vehicle. 43 The Director of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety shall b. 44 provide printed and electronic educational materials concerning 45 child safety in and around motor vehicles and shall disseminate 46 those materials: to child care centers licensed pursuant to P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.); at public venues throughout the State; 47 48 and by any other means as the director may determine, in

	1	1	١		
1			'		

1 collaboration with, and with the assistance of, other State, county, 2 and municipal governmental entities including, but not limited to, 3 distribution on the premises of, or through mail or electronic 4 communications by, any office that is open to members of the 5 general public and is operated, administered, or used to provide 6 services to the general public by the Department of Children and 7 Families and the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission.

8 c. The Director of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety shall 9 report to the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 10 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), no later than 24 months after the 11 effective date of this act, on the activities and accomplishments of 12 the public awareness campaign.

13 14

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

- 15 16
- 17
- 18

#### STATEMENT

19 This bill requires the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the 20 Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the 21 Department of Children and Families, to establish a public 22 awareness campaign to provide information to the general public 23 concerning the dangers of leaving children unattended in and 24 around motor vehicles, and preventative measures that may be taken 25 by parents or guardians to promote child safety and protect against 26 unintended injury or death.

The division is required to provide printed and electronic educational materials concerning child safety in and around motor vehicles and to disseminate those materials: to licensed child care centers in the State; at public venues throughout the State; and by any other means the director may determine in collaboration with other governmental entities, including the Department of Children and Families and the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission.

The bill requires the division to report to the Governor and the Legislature concerning the activities and accomplishments of the public awareness campaign within two years of the bill's effective date.

# **SENATE, No. 2609**

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

#### DATED: FEBRUARY 6, 2017

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2609.

As reported by the committee, this bill requires the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the Department of Children and Families, to establish a public awareness campaign to inform the general public about the dangers of leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles and preventative measures that may be taken by parents or guardians to promote child safety and protect against unintended injury or death.

The division is required to provide printed and electronic educational materials concerning child safety in and around motor vehicles. The materials are to be disseminated at State-licensed child care centers and public venues throughout the State. The materials also may be disseminated on the premises of other governmental entities, such as those offices of the Department of Children and Families and the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission that are open to the general public.

The bill requires the division to report to the Governor and the Legislature the activities and accomplishments of the public awareness campaign within two years of the bill's effective date.

As reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 2609 is identical to Assembly Bill No. 155, which also was reported by the committee on this same date.

# **SENATE, No. 2609**

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

#### DATED: DECEMBER 14, 2017

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2609.

This bill requires the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the Department of Children and Families, to establish a public awareness campaign to inform the general public about the dangers of leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles and the preventative measures that may be taken by parents or guardians to promote child safety and protect against injury or death.

The bill requires the Director of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety to provide printed and electronic educational materials concerning child safety in and around motor vehicles. These materials are to be disseminated at State-licensed child care centers and public venues throughout the State. The materials also may be disseminated on the premises of other governmental entities, such as those offices of the Department of Children and Families and the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission that are open to the general public.

The bill requires the director of the division to report to the Governor and the Legislature on the activities and accomplishments of the public awareness campaign no later than 24 months after the bill's effective date.

The bill is scheduled to take effect immediately upon enactment.

As reported, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 155, as also reported by the committee.

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services expects this bill will increase the annual expenditures of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety, but lacks sufficient information to quantify the increase. This expectation is based on the assumption that the division will experience a workload increase, especially in the first year following enactment, to compile relevant information, establish printed and electronic educational materials, disseminate these materials Statewide, and provide a report concerning the activities and accomplishments of the public awareness campaign in accordance with the bill.

# LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE SENATE, No. 2609 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

DATED: DECEMBER 18, 2017

## SUMMARY

Synopsis:	Establishes public awareness campaign concerning the dangers of leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles.
Type of Impact:	Indeterminate Expenditure Increase
Agencies Affected:	Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Highway Traffic Safety.

#### Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
State Cost	Inde	terminate – See comments	below

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes that the bill will increase the annual expenditures of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety by an indeterminate amount. Expenditures are likely to be higher in the first fiscal year than in subsequent years.
- The division will experience a workload increase from developing and conducting a public awareness campaign, consisting of printed and electronic educational materials, and providing a report to the Governor and the Legislature concerning the activities and accomplishments of the public awareness campaign.

## **BILL DESCRIPTION**

Senate Bill No. 2609 of 2016 requires the establishment of a public awareness campaign concerning the dangers of leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles.

The bill requires the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the Department of Children and Families, to establish a public awareness campaign to provide information to the general public concerning the dangers of leaving children unattended in and around motor vehicles, and preventative measures that may be taken by parents or guardians to promote child safety and protect against unintended injury or death.



2

The division is required to provide printed and electronic educational materials concerning child safety in and around motor vehicles and to disseminate those materials: to licensed child care centers in the State; at public venues throughout the State; and by any other means the director may determine in collaboration with other governmental entities, including the Department of Children and Families and the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission.

The bill requires the division to report to the Governor and the Legislature concerning the activities and accomplishments of the public awareness campaign within two years of the bill's effective date.

#### FISCAL ANALYSIS

#### **EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

None received.

#### **OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES**

The OLS concludes that the bill will increase the annual operating expenses of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety by an indeterminate amount.

It is expected that the division will experience a workload increase to develop and implement the public awareness campaign. This would consist of compiling information, establishing printed and electronic educational materials, disseminating educational materials Statewide, and providing a report to the Governor and the Legislature concerning the activities and accomplishments of the public awareness campaign.

The division recently conducted a child safety seat campaign to provide awareness of the new changes in the safety seat laws. Information on the cost of the safety seat campaign, which could serve as a basis for estimating the impact of this bill, is unavailable to the OLS.

The OLS notes that there are reputable sources of information for use in a public awareness campaign. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) provides parents information on how to keep their children safe in and around motor vehicles (www.safercar.gov/parents/). Child safety organizations, such as Safe Kids, have a presence in New Jersey with ten chapters dedicated to providing a variety of educational materials and training concerning the safety of children inside and outside motor vehicles, including: pedestrian safety; safety in and around cars; child passenger safety; heatstroke awareness and prevention; and frontover and backover prevention.

Section:	Law and Public Safety
Analyst:	Kristin Brunner Santos Senior Fiscal Analyst
Approved:	Frank W. Haines III Legislative Budget and Finance Officer

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).