40A:12A-5 LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2019 **CHAPTER**: 229

NJSA: 40A:12A-5 (Expands eligibility criteria for designating certain areas as being in need of redevelopment.)

BILL NO: A1700 (Substituted for S1583)

SPONSOR(S) Ronald S. Dancer and others

DATE INTRODUCED: 1/9/2018

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: Commerce & Economic Development

SENATE: Community & Urban Affairs

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: 6/20/2019

SENATE: 6/10/2019

DATE OF APPROVAL: 8/9/2019

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (Second Reprint enacted)

A1700

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 3 of introduced bill) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: Yes

SENATE: No

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: Yes

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

S1583

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 3 of introduced bill) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: No

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: Yes

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

VETO MESSAGE: 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:	Yes
"Murphy approves local incentive to boost NJ's failing malls, office parks," NJBIZ (New Brunswick, NJ) - August 9, 2019	

Yes

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:

RWH/CL

P.L. 2019, CHAPTER 229, approved August 9, 2019 Assembly, No. 1700 (Second Reprint)

AN ACT concerning the designation of certain areas as in need of redevelopment and amending P.L.1992, c.79.

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

- 1. Section 5 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-5) is amended to read as follows:
- 5. A delineated area may be determined to be in need of redevelopment if, after investigation, notice and hearing as provided in section 6 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-6), the governing body of the municipality by resolution concludes that within the delineated area any of the following conditions is found:
 - a. The generality of buildings are substandard, unsafe, unsanitary, dilapidated, or obsolescent, or possess any of such characteristics, or are so lacking in light, air, or space, as to be conducive to unwholesome living or working conditions.
 - b. The discontinuance of the use of ²a building or ² buildings previously used for commercial, ²retail, shopping malls or plazas, office parks, ² manufacturing, or industrial purposes; the abandonment of such ²building or ² buildings; ²significant vacancies of such building or buildings for at least two consecutive years; ² or the same being allowed to fall into so great a state of disrepair as to be untenantable.
 - c. Land that is owned by the municipality, the county, a local housing authority, redevelopment agency or redevelopment entity, or unimproved vacant land that has remained so for a period of ten years prior to adoption of the resolution, and that by reason of its location, remoteness, lack of means of access to developed sections or portions of the municipality, or topography, or nature of the soil, is not likely to be developed through the instrumentality of private capital.
 - d. Areas with buildings or improvements which, by reason of dilapidation, obsolescence, overcrowding, faulty arrangement or design, lack of ventilation, light and sanitary facilities, excessive land coverage, deleterious land use or obsolete layout, or any combination of these or other factors, are detrimental to the safety, health, morals, or welfare of the community.
 - e. A growing lack or total lack of proper utilization of areas caused by the condition of the title, diverse ownership of the real

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly ACE committee amendments adopted September 13, 2018.

²Senate floor amendments adopted May 30, 2019.

properties therein or other similar conditions which impede land assemblage or discourage the undertaking of improvements, resulting in a stagnant and unproductive condition of land potentially useful and valuable for contributing to and serving the public health, safety and welfare, which condition is presumed to be having a negative social or economic impact or otherwise being detrimental to the safety, health, morals, or welfare of the surrounding area or the community in general.

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- f. Areas, in excess of five contiguous acres, whereon buildings or improvements have been destroyed, consumed by fire, demolished or altered by the action of storm, fire, cyclone, tornado, earthquake or other casualty in such a way that the aggregate assessed value of the area has been materially depreciated.
- g. In any municipality in which an enterprise zone has been designated pursuant to the "New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zones Act," P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-60 et seq.) the execution of the actions prescribed in that act for the adoption by the municipality and approval by the New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zone Authority of the zone development plan for the area of the enterprise zone shall be considered sufficient for the determination that the area is in need of redevelopment pursuant to sections 5 and 6 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-5 and 40A:12A-6) for the purpose of granting tax exemptions within the enterprise zone district pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1991, c.431 (C.40A:20-1 et seq.) or the adoption of a tax abatement and exemption ordinance pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1991, c.441 (C.40A:21-1 et seq.). The municipality shall not utilize any other redevelopment powers within the urban enterprise zone unless the municipal governing body and planning board have also taken the actions and fulfilled the requirements prescribed in P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 et al.) for determining that the area is in need of redevelopment or an area in need of rehabilitation and the municipal governing body has adopted a redevelopment plan ordinance including the area of the enterprise zone.
- h. The designation of the delineated area is consistent with smart growth planning principles adopted pursuant to law or regulation.
- ²[i. Areas with buildings used, or previously used, as a shopping mall, shopping plaza, or professional office park, which buildings have been vacant or partially vacant with less than 50% occupancy,
- - 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Expands eligibility criteria for designating certain areas as being in need of redevelopment.

ASSEMBLY, No. 1700

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

218th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2018 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman RONALD S. DANCER
District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)
Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE
District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by: Assemblywoman Murphy

SYNOPSIS

Specifies vacant shopping malls and office parks as eligible for designation as areas in need of redevelopment.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/14/2018)

AN ACT concerning the designation of certain areas as in need of redevelopment and amending P.L.1992, c.79.

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

- 1. Section 5 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-5) is amended to read as follows:
- 5. A delineated area may be determined to be in need of redevelopment if, after investigation, notice and hearing as provided in section 6 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-6), the governing body of the municipality by resolution concludes that within the delineated area any of the following conditions is found:
- a. The generality of buildings are substandard, unsafe, unsanitary, dilapidated, or obsolescent, or possess any of such characteristics, or are so lacking in light, air, or space, as to be conducive to unwholesome living or working conditions.
- b. The discontinuance of the use of buildings previously used for commercial, manufacturing, or industrial purposes; the abandonment of such buildings; or the same being allowed to fall into so great a state of disrepair as to be untenantable.
- c. Land that is owned by the municipality, the county, a local housing authority, redevelopment agency or redevelopment entity, or unimproved vacant land that has remained so for a period of ten years prior to adoption of the resolution, and that by reason of its location, remoteness, lack of means of access to developed sections or portions of the municipality, or topography, or nature of the soil, is not likely to be developed through the instrumentality of private capital.
- d. Areas with buildings or improvements which, by reason of dilapidation, obsolescence, overcrowding, faulty arrangement or design, lack of ventilation, light and sanitary facilities, excessive land coverage, deleterious land use or obsolete layout, or any combination of these or other factors, are detrimental to the safety, health, morals, or welfare of the community.
- e. A growing lack or total lack of proper utilization of areas caused by the condition of the title, diverse ownership of the real properties therein or other similar conditions which impede land assemblage or discourage the undertaking of improvements, resulting in a stagnant and unproductive condition of land potentially useful and valuable for contributing to and serving the public health, safety and welfare, which condition is presumed to be having a negative social or economic impact or otherwise being detrimental to the safety, health, morals, or welfare of the surrounding area or the community in general.

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

A1700 DANCER, VAINIERI HUTTLE

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- f. Areas, in excess of five contiguous acres, whereon buildings or improvements have been destroyed, consumed by fire, demolished or altered by the action of storm, fire, cyclone, tornado, earthquake or other casualty in such a way that the aggregate assessed value of the area has been materially depreciated.
- g. In any municipality in which an enterprise zone has been 6 7 designated pursuant to the "New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zones 8 Act," P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-60 et seq.) the execution of the 9 actions prescribed in that act for the adoption by the municipality 10 and approval by the New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zone Authority 11 of the zone development plan for the area of the enterprise zone 12 shall be considered sufficient for the determination that the area is 13 in need of redevelopment pursuant to sections 5 and 6 of P.L.1992, 14 c.79 (C.40A:12A-5 and 40A:12A-6) for the purpose of granting tax 15 exemptions within the enterprise zone district pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1991, c.431 (C.40A:20-1 et seq.) or the adoption 16 17 of a tax abatement and exemption ordinance pursuant to the 18 provisions of P.L.1991, c.441 (C.40A:21-1 et seq.). The 19 municipality shall not utilize any other redevelopment powers 20 within the urban enterprise zone unless the municipal governing body and planning board have also taken the actions and fulfilled 21 22 the requirements prescribed in P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 et al.) 23 for determining that the area is in need of redevelopment or an area 24 in need of rehabilitation and the municipal governing body has 25 adopted a redevelopment plan ordinance including the area of the 26 enterprise zone.
 - h. The designation of the delineated area is consistent with smart growth planning principles adopted pursuant to law or regulation.
 - i. Areas with buildings used, or previously used, as a shopping mall, shopping plaza, or professional office park, which buildings have been vacant or partially vacant with less than 50% occupancy, for a period of at least one year.

34 (cf: P.L.2013, c.159, s.1)

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2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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This bill would amend the "Local Redevelopment and Housing Law," P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 et seq.), to specify that a municipality may determine an area to be in need of redevelopment if the area contains buildings that are used as, or were previously used as, a shopping mall, a shopping plaza, or a professional office park, and the buildings have been vacant, or partially vacant with less than 50% occupancy, for a period of at least one year. In many cases throughout New Jersey, these once prestigious land use types,

A1700 DANCER, VAINIERI HUTTLE

now vacant or significantly underutilized, are imposing such a significant strain on their surrounding communities, that it is appropriate and necessary to allow municipalities to use the powers authorized under Article VIII, Section III, paragraph 1 of the State Constitution for the redevelopment of blighted areas.

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The post-World War II development of New Jersey's suburban landscape was heavily influenced by automobile-dependent types of land uses. Prominent among these land use prototypes was the development of regional and local shopping malls and suburban office campuses. For decades, many municipalities, particularly suburban municipalities, relied on the existence of large office campuses and shopping malls to supply jobs and contribute revenue through the payment of property taxes.

Throughout New Jersey, these once vibrant, envied land use types have fallen into disuse. Corporations across New Jersey have vacated office parks because they understand that today's job seekers prefer to work near where they live, or where they can commute by mass transit. Similarly, recognizing that community shopping centers have been underperforming for decades, retail merchants have vacated space in shopping malls in favor of making a more aggressive presence in vibrant downtown neighborhoods and on the web.

Because large corporate office parks and large shopping malls have become obsolete, vacant, and difficult to market, today they are characterized in development circles as "stranded assets." In order to encourage private entities to work together with municipal governments to redevelop stranded assets, it may be necessary to resort to more potent development tools than traditional land use planning and zoning. By specifying that a vacant shopping mall or office park is an area in need of redevelopment, a municipality can offer potential private sector partners redevelopment tools such as tax exemptions and abatements to encourage them to repurpose stranded assets.

ASSEMBLY COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1700

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

The Assembly Commerce and Economic Development Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 1700.

This bill, as amended, would amend the "Local Redevelopment and Housing Law," P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 et seq.), to specify that a municipality may determine an area to be in need of redevelopment if the area contains buildings that are used as, or were previously used as, a shopping mall, a shopping plaza, or a professional office park, and the buildings have been vacant, or partially vacant with less than 50 percent occupancy, for a period of at least two years. This bill will allow municipalities to use the powers authorized under Article VIII, Section III, paragraph 1 of the State Constitution to redevelop these "stranded assets." By specifying that a vacant shopping mall or office park is an area in need of redevelopment, a municipality can offer potential private sector partners redevelopment tools such as tax exemptions and abatements to encourage them to repurpose these stranded assets.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2018-2019 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to increase from one year to two years the period of time that buildings used, or previously used, as a shopping mall, shopping plaza, or professional office park, must have been vacant or partially vacant in order for a municipality to determine the area containing the buildings to be an area in need of redevelopment.

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint] **ASSEMBLY, No. 1700**

with Senate Floor Amendments (Proposed by Senator CRUZ-PEREZ)

ADOPTED: MAY 30, 2019

This amendment would delete from section 1 of the bill a proposed new subsection i. to section 5 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-5) and insert language comparable to the language being deleted into subsection b. of that section. This amendment would eliminate the possibility of a conflict between existing subsection b. and the proposed new subsection i.

The amendment would delete from the bill a provision authorizing a municipality to designate an area in need of redevelopment under the "Local Redevelopment and Housing Law," P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 et seq.) if the area contains buildings used as a shopping mall, shopping plaza, or professional office park, and the buildings have been vacant, or partially vacant with less than 50 percent occupancy, for at least two years. The amendment would replace the deleted provision with language authorizing designation of an area as being in need of redevelopment if the area contains a building or buildings used, or previously used, for commercial, retail, shopping malls or plazas, office parks, manufacturing, or industrial purposes if the building or buildings have had significant vacancies for at least two consecutive years.

The amendment would replace the bill's current 50 percent or more vacancy requirement with a significant vacancy requirement and also extend the criterion of significant vacancies to all types of buildings used for commercial, manufacturing, or industrial purposes. In its current form, the bill applies the partial vacancy criterion only to buildings used, or previously used, as a shopping mall, shopping plaza, or professional office park.

SENATE, No. 1583

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 5, 2018

Sponsored by:

Senator NILSA CRUZ-PEREZ
District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)
Senator SANDRA B. CUNNINGHAM
District 31 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by: Senator Singleton

SYNOPSIS

Specifies vacant shopping malls and office parks as eligible for designation as areas in need of redevelopment.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/28/2018)

AN ACT concerning the designation of certain areas as in need of 2 redevelopment and amending P.L.1992, c.79.

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

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- 1. Section 5 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-5) is amended to read as follows:
- 5. A delineated area may be determined to be in need of redevelopment if, after investigation, notice and hearing as provided in section 6 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-6), the governing body of the municipality by resolution concludes that within the delineated area any of the following conditions is found:
- The generality of buildings are substandard, unsafe, unsanitary, dilapidated, or obsolescent, or possess any of such characteristics, or are so lacking in light, air, or space, as to be conducive to unwholesome living or working conditions.
- The discontinuance of the use of buildings previously used for commercial, manufacturing, or industrial purposes; the abandonment of such buildings; or the same being allowed to fall into so great a state of disrepair as to be untenantable.
- c. Land that is owned by the municipality, the county, a local housing authority, redevelopment agency or redevelopment entity, or unimproved vacant land that has remained so for a period of ten years prior to adoption of the resolution, and that by reason of its location, remoteness, lack of means of access to developed sections or portions of the municipality, or topography, or nature of the soil, is not likely to be developed through the instrumentality of private capital.
- Areas with buildings or improvements which, by reason of dilapidation, obsolescence, overcrowding, faulty arrangement or design, lack of ventilation, light and sanitary facilities, excessive land coverage, deleterious land use or obsolete layout, or any combination of these or other factors, are detrimental to the safety, health, morals, or welfare of the community.
- A growing lack or total lack of proper utilization of areas caused by the condition of the title, diverse ownership of the real properties therein or other similar conditions which impede land assemblage or discourage the undertaking of improvements, resulting in a stagnant and unproductive condition of land potentially useful and valuable for contributing to and serving the public health, safety and welfare, which condition is presumed to be having a negative social or economic impact or otherwise being detrimental to the safety, health, morals, or welfare of the surrounding area or the community in general.

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

S1583 CRUZ-PEREZ, CUNNINGHAM

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- f. Areas, in excess of five contiguous acres, whereon buildings or improvements have been destroyed, consumed by fire, demolished or altered by the action of storm, fire, cyclone, tornado, earthquake or other casualty in such a way that the aggregate assessed value of the area has been materially depreciated.
- 6 g. In any municipality in which an enterprise zone has been 7 designated pursuant to the "New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zones 8 Act," P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-60 et seq.) the execution of the 9 actions prescribed in that act for the adoption by the municipality 10 and approval by the New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zone Authority 11 of the zone development plan for the area of the enterprise zone 12 shall be considered sufficient for the determination that the area is 13 in need of redevelopment pursuant to sections 5 and 6 of P.L.1992, 14 c.79 (C.40A:12A-5 and 40A:12A-6) for the purpose of granting tax 15 exemptions within the enterprise zone district pursuant to the 16 provisions of P.L.1991, c.431 (C.40A:20-1 et seq.) or the adoption 17 of a tax abatement and exemption ordinance pursuant to the 18 provisions of P.L.1991, c.441 (C.40A:21-1 et seq.). The 19 municipality shall not utilize any other redevelopment powers 20 within the urban enterprise zone unless the municipal governing 21 body and planning board have also taken the actions and fulfilled 22 the requirements prescribed in P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 et al.) 23 for determining that the area is in need of redevelopment or an area 24 in need of rehabilitation and the municipal governing body has 25 adopted a redevelopment plan ordinance including the area of the 26 enterprise zone.
 - h. The designation of the delineated area is consistent with smart growth planning principles adopted pursuant to law or regulation.
 - i. Areas with buildings used, or previously used, as a shopping mall, shopping plaza, or professional office park, which buildings have been vacant or partially vacant with less than 50% occupancy, for a period of at least one year.

(cf: P.L.2013, c.159, s.1)

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2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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This bill would amend the "Local Redevelopment and Housing Law," P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 et seq.), to specify that a municipality may determine an area to be in need of redevelopment if the area contains buildings that are used as, or were previously used as, a shopping mall, a shopping plaza, or a professional office park, and the buildings have been vacant, or partially vacant with less than 50% occupancy, for a period of at least one year. In many cases throughout New Jersey, these once prestigious land use types,

S1583 CRUZ-PEREZ, CUNNINGHAM

now vacant or significantly underutilized, are imposing such a significant strain on their surrounding communities, that it is appropriate and necessary to allow municipalities to use the powers authorized under Article VIII, Section III, paragraph 1 of the State Constitution for the redevelopment of blighted areas.

The post-World War II development of New Jersey's suburban landscape was heavily influenced by automobile-dependent types of land uses. Prominent among these land use prototypes was the development of regional and local shopping malls and suburban office campuses. For decades, many municipalities, particularly suburban municipalities, relied on the existence of large office campuses and shopping malls to supply jobs and contribute revenue through the payment of property taxes.

Throughout New Jersey, these once vibrant, envied land use types have fallen into disuse. Corporations across New Jersey have vacated office parks because they understand that today's job seekers prefer to work near where they live, or where they can commute by mass transit. Similarly, recognizing that community shopping centers have been underperforming for decades, retail merchants have vacated space in shopping malls in favor of making a more aggressive presence in vibrant downtown neighborhoods and on the web.

Because large corporate office parks and large shopping malls have become obsolete, vacant, and difficult to market, today they are characterized in development circles as "stranded assets." In order to encourage private entities to work together with municipal governments to redevelop stranded assets, it may be necessary to resort to more potent development tools than traditional land use planning and zoning. By specifying that a vacant shopping mall or office park is an area in need of redevelopment, a municipality can offer potential private sector partners redevelopment tools such as tax exemptions and abatements to encourage them to repurpose stranded assets.

SENATE COMMUNITY AND URBAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1583

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 17, 2019

The Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1583, with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill would revise the "Local Redevelopment and Housing Law," P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 et seq.), to specify that a municipality may determine an area to be in need of redevelopment if the area contains buildings that are used as, or were previously used as, a shopping mall, a shopping plaza, or a professional office park, and the buildings have been vacant, or partially vacant with less than 50 percent occupancy, for a period of at least two years. This bill will allow municipalities to use the powers authorized under Article VIII, Section III, paragraph 1 of the State Constitution to redevelop these "stranded assets." By specifying that a vacant shopping mall or office park is an area in need of redevelopment, a municipality can offer potential private sector partners redevelopment tools, such as tax exemptions and abatements, to encourage the repurposing of these stranded assets.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to change the vacancy requirement for buildings used or previously used as a shopping mall, shopping plaza, or professional office park from one year to two years in order for a municipality to determine the area containing the buildings to be an area in need of redevelopment.

These amendments make this bill identical to Assembly Bill No. 1700 (1R).

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint] **SENATE, No. 1583**

with Senate Floor Amendments (Proposed by Senator CRUZ-PEREZ)

ADOPTED: MAY 30, 2019

This amendment would delete from section 1 of the bill a proposed new subsection i. to section 5 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-5) and insert language comparable to the language being deleted into subsection b. of that section. This amendment would eliminate the possibility of a conflict between existing subsection b. and the proposed new subsection i.

The amendment would delete from the bill a provision authorizing a municipality to designate an area in need of redevelopment under the "Local Redevelopment and Housing Law," P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 et seq.) if the area contains buildings used as a shopping mall, shopping plaza, or professional office park, and the buildings have been vacant, or partially vacant with less than 50 percent occupancy, for at least two years. The amendment would replace the deleted provision with language authorizing designation of an area as being in need of redevelopment if the area contains a building or buildings used, or previously used, for commercial, retail, shopping malls or plazas, office parks, manufacturing, or industrial purposes if the building or buildings have had significant vacancies for at least two consecutive years.

The amendment would replace the bill's current 50 percent or more vacancy requirement with a significant vacancy requirement and also extend the criterion of significant vacancies to all types of buildings used for commercial, manufacturing, or industrial purposes. In its current form, the bill applies the partial vacancy criterion only to buildings used, or previously used, as a shopping mall, shopping plaza, or professional office park.

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

08/9/2019

TRENTON - Today, Governor Phil Murphy signed the following bills into law:

A312 (Pinkin, Conaway, Giblin, Holley, Danielsen, Mukherji, Wimberly/Vitale, Rice) - Requires certain health care facilities to provide information concerning palliative care and hospice care services.

A841 (Land, Calabrese/Andrzejczak) - Provides for establishment of county college certificate programs to meet needs of certain regional employers.

A1700 (Dancer, Vainieri Huttle, Calabrese/Cruz-Perez, Cunningham) - Expands eligibility criteria for designating certain areas as being in need of redevelopment.

A2004 (Karabinchak, Mazzeo, Pinkin, Coughlin/Diegnan) - Requires municipality to pay certain nonresidential property tax appeal refunds in equal installments over period of three years.

A3937 (DeAngelo, Reynolds-Jackson, Verrelli/Turner) - Allows local government water system employees to reside in all municipalities served by water system.

A4115 (Benson, DeAngelo, Holley/Greenstein) - Clarifies that certain students are eligible for NJ STARS and NJ STARS II scholarship upon initial enrollment at institution of higher education on part-time basis.

A4223 (Johnson, Rooney/Weinberg, Lagana) - Requires State Treasurer to pay county prosecutor's expenses for overseeing certain law enforcement agencies.

A4938 (Tucker, Pinkin, Vainieri Huttle/Ruiz, Greenstein) - Requires DOH to establish "My Life, My Plan" program to support women of childbearing age in developing reproductive life plan.

A5021 (Quijano, Bramnick, Reynolds-Jackson, Pinkin, Downey/Vitale, Kean) - Requires Medicaid coverage for group prenatal care services under certain circumstances.

A5322 (Burzichelli, Milam, Houghtaling, Taliaferro/Sweeney, Oroho, Beach, Andrzejczak) - Establishes program for cultivation, handling, processing, transport, and sale of hemp; repeals New Jersey Industrial Hemp Pilot Program.

A5392 (Quijano, Murphy/Vitale, Scutari) - Establishes new liability standards in sexual abuse lawsuits filed against public entities and public employees.

A5595 (Milam, Houghtaling, Dancer, Wirths/Oroho, Pennacchio) - Expands eligibility for EDA small business loan program to specifically include certain farming operations and qualified dairy farmers.

S601 (Smith, Greenstein/Pinkin, McKeon) - Establishes "New Jersey Solar Panel Recycling Commission."

S781 (Sarlo, O'Scanlon/Giblin, DiMaso, Handlin) - Revises penalties for certain violations of law by public movers and warehousemen.

S984 (Vitale, Singleton/Conaway, Mukherji, Murphy) - Establishes certain requirements, including allowable fees, for provision of medical records to patients, legally authorized representatives, and authorized third parties.

S1109 (Ruiz/Munoz, Quijano) – Renames "Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment Act" as "Practitioner Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment Act"; permits physician assistants to sign and modify POLST forms; requires continuing education concerning end-of-life care.

S1739 (Oroho, Andrzejczak/Land, Space, Milam) - Renames county corrections officers as county correctional police officers.

S2807 (Cryan, Cruz-Perez/Pinkin, Moriarty, Zwicker) - Concerns service of food or refreshments on mortuary premises.

S2858 (Gopal, Diegnan/Houghtaling, Downey, Johnson) - Prohibits issuance of certain badges to NJT board members, PANYNJ commissioners, and local and State elected officials.

S3212 (Ruiz, Rice/Pintor Marin, Holley) - Permits municipalities to establish temporary supplemental zoning boards of adjustment to address application backlogs.

S3334 (Diegnan, Vitale/Conaway, Pinkin) - Exempts certain surgical technologists from general educational and training requirements.