

(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
GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:	Yes
FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:	
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REPORTS:	No
HEARINGS:	No
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:	No

Rwh/CL

P.L. 2019, CHAPTER 493, *approved January 21, 2020*
Assembly Committee Substitute (*Second Reprint*) for
Assembly, No. 4972

1 AN ACT concerning arbitration organizations and supplementing
2 P.L.2003, c.95 (C.2A:23B-1 et seq.).
3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:
6

7 1. As used in this act:

8 "Consumer" means a party to an arbitration agreement who, in
9 the context of that agreement, is an individual who seeks or
10 acquires, including by lease, any goods or services primarily for
11 personal, family, or household purposes including, but not limited
12 to, financial services, healthcare services, or real property.
13 "Consumer" shall not include a business.

14 "Consumer arbitration" means arbitration pursuant to a
15 standardized contract, written by one party, with a provision
16 requiring that disputes arising after the contract's signing shall be
17 submitted to binding arbitration, and the party not writing the
18 contract is a consumer. "Consumer arbitration" shall not include an
19 arbitration conducted or administered by a self-regulatory
20 organization as defined by the "Securities Exchange Act of
21 1934" (15 U.S.C. s.78c), the "Commodity Exchange Act"
22 (7 U.S.C. s.1 et seq.), or regulations adopted under those acts.

23 "Financial interest" means:

24 (1) holding a position in a business as officer, director, trustee,
25 or partner, or holding any position in management of the business²,
26 except that any position-holder in a non-profit organization who is
27 not compensated for holding that position shall not be considered to
28 have a financial interest in the organization²; or

29 (2) ownership of more than ²a² five percent interest in a
30 business.

31 "Indigent consumer" means a consumer having a gross monthly
32 income that is less than 300 percent of the federal poverty
33 guidelines issued annually by the United States Department of
34 Health and Human Services.

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:

¹Senate SCM committee amendments adopted November 14, 2019.

²Senate floor amendments adopted December 16, 2019.

- 1 2. An arbitration organization shall not administer a consumer
2 arbitration, or provide any other services related to a consumer
3 arbitration, if:
- 4 a. the arbitration organization has, or within the preceding year
5 has had, a financial interest in any party or attorney for a party; or
6 b. any party or attorney for a party has, or within the preceding
7 year has had, any type of financial interest in the arbitration
8 organization.
- 9
- 10 3. a. A consumer arbitration shall not require a consumer who
11 is a party to the arbitration to pay the fees and costs incurred by an
12 opposing party if the consumer does not prevail in the arbitration,
13 including, but not limited to, the fees and costs of the arbitrator,
14 arbitration organization, attorney, or witnesses.
- 15 b. (1) All fees and costs charged to or assessed upon a
16 consumer by an arbitration organization in a consumer arbitration,
17 exclusive of arbitrator fees, shall be waived for an indigent
18 consumer.
- 19 (2) Before requesting or obtaining any fee, an arbitration
20 organization shall provide written notice of the right to obtain a
21 waiver of fees in a manner calculated to bring the matter to the
22 attention of a reasonable consumer, including, but not limited to,
23 prominently placing a notice in its first written communication to
24 the consumer and in any invoice, bill, submission form, fee
25 schedule, or rule or code of procedure.
- 26 (3) Any consumer requesting a waiver of fees or costs may
27 establish eligibility by making a declaration under oath of the
28 consumer's monthly income and the number of persons living in
29 the consumer's household¹ on a form provided by the arbitration
30 organization and signed by the consumer. An arbitration
31 organization shall not require a consumer to provide any further
32 statement or evidence of indigence.
- 33 (4) Any information obtained by an arbitration organization
34 regarding a consumer's identity, financial condition, income,
35 wealth, or fee waiver request shall be kept confidential and may not
36 be disclosed to any adverse party or any nonparty to the arbitration,
37 except an arbitration organization may not keep confidential the
38 number of waiver requests received or granted, or the total amount
39 of fees waived.
- 40 c. Nothing in this section shall affect the ability of an
41 arbitration organization to shift fees that would otherwise be
42 charged or assessed upon a consumer party to another party.
- 43 d. This section shall only apply to arbitration pursuant to a
44 standardized contract, written by one party, with a provision
45 requiring that disputes arising after the contract's signing shall be
46 submitted to binding arbitration, and the party not writing the
47 contract is a consumer.

1 4. a. Any arbitration organization that administers or
2 otherwise is involved in more than 50 consumer arbitrations per
3 year shall collect, publish at least quarterly, and make available to
4 the public, all of the following information regarding each
5 consumer arbitration within the preceding five years:

6 (1) the name of any corporation or other business entity that is
7 party to the arbitration;

8 (2) the type of dispute involved, including, but not limited to,
9 goods, banking, insurance, health care, or employment. In the case
10 of arbitration involving employment, the amount of the employees'
11 annual wage divided into the following ranges:

12 (a) less than \$100,000;

13 (b) \$100,000 to \$250,000, inclusive; and

14 (c) more than \$250,000;

15 (3) whether the consumer was the prevailing party;

16 (4) the number of occasions a business entity, which is a party
17 to an arbitration, has previously been a party in an arbitration or
18 mediation administered by the arbitration organization;

19 (5) whether the consumer was represented by an attorney;

20 (6) the date the arbitration organization received the demand for
21 arbitration, the date the arbitrator was appointed, and the date of
22 disposition by the arbitrator or arbitration organization;

23 (7) the type of disposition of the dispute, if known, including
24 withdrawal, abandonment, settlement, award after hearing, award
25 without hearing, default, or dismissal without hearing;

26 (8) the amount of the claim, the amount of the award, and any
27 other relief granted, if any; and

28 (9) the name of the arbitrator, the total fee for the case, and the
29 percentage of the arbitrator's fee allocated to each party.

30 b. If the information required by subsection a. of this section is
31 provided by the arbitration organization in a computer-searchable
32 format through the company's Internet website and may be
33 downloaded without any fee, the company may charge the actual
34 cost of copying to any person who requests the information on
35 paper. If the information required by subsection a. of this section is
36 not accessible through the Internet, the company shall provide that
37 information without charge to any person who requests the
38 information on paper.

39 c. An arbitration organization shall not be liable for collecting,
40 publishing, or distributing the information required by this section.

41

42 5. This act shall take effect on the first day of the fourth month
43 next following enactment. This act shall apply to consumer
44 arbitration commenced on or after the effective date of this act, and
45 shall operate only prospectively so as not to prohibit the
46 administration of consumer arbitrations on the basis of financial
47 interests held prior to the effective date of this act.

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4

Establishes certain consumer protections related to arbitration organizations.

ASSEMBLY, No. 4972

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 28, 2019

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman PAUL D. MORIARTY

District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes certain consumer protections related to arbitration organizations.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning arbitration organizations and supplementing
2 P.L.2003, c.95 (C.2A:23B-1 et seq.).

3

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

6

7 1. As used in this act:

8 "Consumer" means a party to an arbitration agreement who, in
9 the context of that agreement, is an individual, not a business, who
10 seeks or acquires, including by lease, any goods or services
11 primarily for personal, family, or household purposes including, but
12 not limited to, financial services, healthcare services, or real
13 property.

14 "Consumer arbitration" means arbitration pursuant to a
15 standardized contract, written by one party, with a provision
16 requiring that disputes arising after the contract's signing shall be
17 submitted to binding arbitration, and the party not writing the
18 contract is a consumer. "Consumer arbitration" does not include an
19 arbitration conducted or administered by a self-regulatory
20 organization as defined by the "Securities Exchange Act of 1934"
21 (15 U.S.C. Section 78C), the "Commodity Exchange Act" (7 U.S.C.
22 Section 1 et seq.), or regulations adopted under those acts.

23 "Financial interest" means:

24 (1) Holding a position in a business as officer, director, trustee,
25 or partner, or holding any position in management of the business;
26 or

27 (2) Ownership of more than five percent interest in a business.

28 "Indigent consumer" means a consumer having a gross monthly
29 income that is less than 300 percent of the federal poverty
30 guidelines issued annually by the United States Department of
31 Health and Human Services.

32

33 2. No arbitration organization shall administer a consumer
34 arbitration, or provide any other services related to a consumer
35 arbitration, if:

36 a. The arbitration organization has, or within the preceding
37 year has had, a financial interest in any party or attorney for a
38 party; or

39 b. Any party or attorney for a party has, or within the preceding
40 year has had, any type of financial interest in the arbitration
41 organization.

42

43 3. a. No consumer arbitration shall require a consumer who is
44 a party to the arbitration to pay the fees and costs incurred by an
45 opposing party if the consumer does not prevail in the arbitration,
46 including, but not limited to, the fees and costs of the arbitrator,
47 arbitration organization, attorney, or witnesses.

1 b. (1) All fees and costs charged to or assessed upon a
2 consumer by an arbitration organization in a consumer arbitration,
3 exclusive of arbitrator fees, shall be waived for an indigent
4 consumer.

5 (2) Before requesting or obtaining any fee, an arbitration
6 organization shall provide written notice of the right to obtain a
7 waiver of fees in a manner calculated to bring the matter to the
8 attention of a reasonable consumer, including, but not limited to,
9 prominently placing a notice in its first written communication to
10 the consumer and in any invoice, bill, submission form, fee
11 schedule, rules, or code of procedure.

12 (3) Any consumer requesting a waiver of fees or costs may
13 establish his or her eligibility by making a declaration under oath on
14 a form provided to the consumer by the arbitration organization for
15 signature stating his or her monthly income and the number of
16 persons living in his or her household. No arbitration organization
17 may require a consumer to provide any further statement or
18 evidence of indigence.

19 (4) Any information obtained by an arbitration organization
20 regarding a consumer's identity, financial condition, income,
21 wealth, or fee waiver request shall be kept confidential and may not
22 be disclosed to any adverse party or any nonparty to the arbitration,
23 except an arbitration organization may not keep confidential the
24 number of waiver requests received or granted, or the total amount
25 of fees waived.

26 c. Nothing in this section shall affect the ability of an
27 arbitration organization to shift fees that would otherwise be
28 charged or assessed upon a consumer party to another party.

29

30 4. a. Any arbitration organization that administers or otherwise
31 is involved in more than 50 consumer arbitrations per year shall
32 collect, publish at least quarterly, and make available to the public,
33 all of the following information regarding each consumer
34 arbitration within the preceding five years:

35 (1) The name of any corporation or other business entity that is
36 party to the arbitration;

37 (2) The type of dispute involved, including, but not limited to,
38 goods, banking, insurance, health care, or employment. In the case
39 of arbitration involving employment, the amount of the employees'
40 annual wage divided into the following ranges:

41 (a) less than \$100,000;

42 (b) \$100,000 to \$250,000, inclusive; and

43 (c) more than \$250,000;

44 (3) Whether the consumer was the prevailing party;

45 (4) The number of occasions, if any, a business entity which is a
46 party to an arbitration, has previously been a party in an arbitration
47 or mediation administered by the arbitration organization;

48 (5) Whether the consumer was represented by an attorney;

- 1 (6) The date the arbitration organization received the demand
2 for arbitration, the date the arbitrator was appointed, and the date of
3 disposition by the arbitrator or arbitration organization;
- 4 (7) The type of disposition of the dispute, if known, including
5 withdrawal, abandonment, settlement, award after hearing, award
6 without hearing, default, or dismissal without hearing;
- 7 (8) The amount of the claim, the amount of the award, and any
8 other relief granted, if any; and
- 9 (9) The name of the arbitrator, his or her total fee for the case,
10 and the percentage of the arbitrator's fee allocated to each party.
- 11 b. If the information required by subsection a. of this section is
12 provided by the arbitration organization in a computer-searchable
13 format through the company's Internet website and may be
14 downloaded without any fee, the company may charge the actual
15 cost of copying to any person who requests the information on
16 paper. If the information required by subsection a. of this section is
17 not accessible through the Internet, the company shall provide that
18 information without charge to any person who requests the
19 information on paper.
- 20 c. No arbitration organization shall be liable for collecting,
21 publishing, or distributing the information required by this section.

22

23 5. This act shall take effect on the 90th day following
24 enactment. This act shall apply to consumer arbitration commenced
25 on or after January 1, 2019, and shall operate only prospectively so
26 as not to prohibit the administration of consumer arbitrations on the
27 basis of financial interests held prior to January 1, 2019.

28
29

30 STATEMENT

31

32 This bill regulates arbitration organizations. Increasingly, when
33 a contract is signed between an individual and a business in a
34 consumer transaction, the contract contains an arbitration clause
35 that requires an arbitration organization to administer the
36 arbitration. The arbitration organization typically dictates the rules
37 governing the dispute and how the arbitrator is chosen. Under New
38 Jersey's current law, there are rules governing arbitrators and
39 arbitration generally, but there are no rules pertaining to the
40 regulation of arbitration organizations.

41 This bill prohibits a neutral arbitrator or arbitration organization
42 from administering any consumer arbitration that requires a non-
43 prevailing consumer who is a party to the arbitration to pay the
44 opposing party's costs or fees. The bill requires an arbitration
45 organization to waive the fees and costs of arbitration, exclusive of
46 arbitrator fees, for an indigent consumer. The bill also requires an
47 arbitration organization to provide written notice to any consumer

1 of the right to obtain a fee waiver and to keep specified information
2 concerning a consumer confidential.

3 The bill further prohibits an arbitration organization from
4 administering consumer arbitration, or providing any other services
5 related to consumer arbitration, if the company has, or within the
6 preceding year has had, a financial interest in any party or attorney
7 for a party. The bill imposes similar limitations on the provision of
8 services by private arbitration companies based on the financial
9 interests of any party or attorney for a party in the arbitration
10 organization.

11 This bill also requires an arbitration organization involved in
12 consumer arbitration cases to make certain information regarding
13 those cases available to the public.

14 Finally, the bill does not apply to arbitrations conducted or
15 administered by a self-regulatory organization, as defined by the
16 federal "Securities Exchange Act of 1934," the "Commodity
17 Exchange Act," or regulations adopted under those acts.

ASSEMBLY CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR ASSEMBLY, No. 4972

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

The Assembly Consumer Affairs Committee reports favorably an Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill No. 4972.

As reported, the committee substitute regulates arbitration organizations. Increasingly, when a contract is signed between an individual and a business in a consumer transaction, the contract contains an arbitration clause that requires an arbitration organization to administer the arbitration. In addition, the arbitration organization typically dictates the rules governing the dispute and how the arbitrator is chosen. Under New Jersey's current law, there are rules governing arbitrators and arbitration generally, but there are no rules pertaining to the regulation of arbitration organizations.

The committee substitute prohibits a neutral arbitrator or arbitration organization from administering any consumer arbitration that requires a non-prevailing consumer who is a party to the arbitration to pay the opposing party's costs or fees. The committee substitute requires an arbitration organization to waive the fees and costs of arbitration, exclusive of arbitrator fees, for an indigent consumer. In addition, the committee substitute requires an arbitration organization to provide written notice to any consumer of the right to obtain a fee waiver and to keep specified information concerning a consumer confidential.

The committee substitute further prohibits an arbitration organization from administering consumer arbitration, or providing any other services related to consumer arbitration, if the company has, or within the preceding year has had, a financial interest in any party or attorney for a party. The committee substitute imposes similar limitations on the provision of services by private arbitration companies based on the financial interests of any party or attorney for a party in the arbitration organization.

The committee substitute also requires an arbitration organization involved in consumer arbitration cases to make certain information regarding those cases available to the public.

Finally, the committee substitute does not apply to arbitrations conducted or administered by a self-regulatory organization, as defined by the federal "Securities Exchange Act of 1934," the "Commodity Exchange Act," or regulations adopted under those acts.

SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR **ASSEMBLY, No. 4972**

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 14, 2019

The Senate Commerce Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments the Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill No. 4972.

The committee substitute regulates arbitration organizations. Increasingly, when a contract is signed between an individual and a business in a consumer transaction, the contract contains an arbitration clause that requires an arbitration organization to administer the arbitration. In addition, the arbitration organization typically dictates the rules governing the dispute and how the arbitrator is chosen. Under New Jersey's current law, there are rules governing arbitrators and arbitration generally, but there are no rules pertaining to the regulation of arbitration organizations.

The committee substitute prohibits a neutral arbitrator or arbitration organization from administering any consumer arbitration that requires a non-prevailing consumer who is a party to the arbitration to pay the opposing party's costs or fees. The committee substitute requires an arbitration organization to waive the fees and costs of arbitration, exclusive of arbitrator fees, for an indigent consumer. In addition, the committee substitute requires an arbitration organization to provide written notice to any consumer of the right to obtain a fee waiver and to keep specified information concerning a consumer confidential.

The committee substitute provides that any consumer requesting a waiver of fees or costs may establish eligibility by making a declaration under oath of the consumer's monthly income and the number of persons living in the consumer's household on a form provided by the arbitration organization and signed by the consumer. An arbitration organization may not require a consumer to provide any further statement or evidence of indigence.

The committee substitute further prohibits an arbitration organization from administering consumer arbitration, or providing any other services related to consumer arbitration, if the company has, or within the preceding year has had, a financial interest in any party or attorney for a party. The committee substitute imposes similar

limitations on the provision of services by private arbitration companies based on the financial interests of any party or attorney for a party in the arbitration organization.

The committee substitute also requires an arbitration organization involved in consumer arbitration cases to make certain information regarding those cases available to the public.

Finally, the committee substitute does not apply to arbitrations conducted or administered by a self-regulatory organization, as defined by the federal “Securities Exchange Act of 1934,” the “Commodity Exchange Act,” or regulations adopted under those acts.

This bill, as amended and reported by the committee, is the same as the Senate Committee Substitute adopted by the committee for Senate Bill No. 1490.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the committee substitute to add the number of persons living in the consumer’s household to the information that a consumer must provide to an arbitration organization to establish eligibility for a waiver of fees or costs.

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
ASSEMBLY, No. 4972

with Senate Floor Amendments
(Proposed by Senator BEACH)

ADOPTED: DECEMBER 16, 2019

This amendment provides that any position-holder in a non-profit organization who is not compensated for holding that position shall not be considered to have a financial interest in the organization. The bill prohibits arbitration organizations from administering consumer arbitrations in which the arbitration organization has a financial interest.

SENATE, No. 1490

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 1, 2018

Sponsored by:

Senator JAMES BEACH

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes certain consumer protections related to arbitration organizations.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



S1490 BEACH

2

1 **AN ACT** concerning arbitration organizations and supplementing
2 P.L.2003, c.95 (C.2A:23B-1 et seq.).

3

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

6

7 1. As used in this act:

8 "Consumer" means a party to an arbitration agreement who, in
9 the context of that agreement, is an individual, not a business, who
10 seeks or acquires, including by lease, any goods or services
11 primarily for personal, family, or household purposes including, but
12 not limited to, financial services, healthcare services, or real
13 property.

14 "Consumer arbitration" means arbitration pursuant to a
15 standardized contract, written by one party, with a provision
16 requiring that disputes arising after the contract's signing shall be
17 submitted to binding arbitration, and the party not writing the
18 contract is a consumer. "Consumer arbitration" does not include an
19 arbitration conducted or administered by a self-regulatory
20 organization as defined by the "Securities Exchange Act of 1934"
21 (15 U.S.C. Section 78C), the "Commodity Exchange Act" (7 U.S.C.
22 Section 1 et seq.), or regulations adopted under those acts.

23 "Financial interest" means:

24 (1) Holding a position in a business as officer, director, trustee,
25 or partner, or holding any position in management of the business;
26 or

27 (2) Ownership of more than five percent interest in a business.

28 "Indigent consumer" means a consumer having a gross monthly
29 income that is less than 300 percent of the federal poverty
30 guidelines issued annually by the United States Department of
31 Health and Human Services.

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33 2. No arbitration organization shall administer a consumer
34 arbitration, or provide any other services related to a consumer
35 arbitration, if:

36 a. The arbitration organization has, or within the preceding
37 year has had, a financial interest in any party or attorney for a
38 party; or

39 b. Any party or attorney for a party has, or within the preceding
40 year has had, any type of financial interest in the arbitration
41 organization.

42

43 3. a. No consumer arbitration shall require a consumer who is
44 a party to the arbitration to pay the fees and costs incurred by an
45 opposing party if the consumer does not prevail in the arbitration,
46 including, but not limited to, the fees and costs of the arbitrator,
47 arbitration organization, attorney, or witnesses.

S1490 BEACH

1 b. (1) All fees and costs charged to or assessed upon a
2 consumer by an arbitration organization in a consumer arbitration,
3 exclusive of arbitrator fees, shall be waived for an indigent
4 consumer.

5 (2) Before requesting or obtaining any fee, an arbitration
6 organization shall provide written notice of the right to obtain a
7 waiver of fees in a manner calculated to bring the matter to the
8 attention of a reasonable consumer, including, but not limited to,
9 prominently placing a notice in its first written communication to
10 the consumer and in any invoice, bill, submission form, fee
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12 (3) Any consumer requesting a waiver of fees or costs may
13 establish his or her eligibility by making a declaration under oath on
14 a form provided to the consumer by the arbitration organization for
15 signature stating his or her monthly income and the number of
16 persons living in his or her household. No arbitration organization
17 may require a consumer to provide any further statement or
18 evidence of indigence.

19 (4) Any information obtained by an arbitration organization
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22 be disclosed to any adverse party or any nonparty to the arbitration,
23 except an arbitration organization may not keep confidential the
24 number of waiver requests received or granted, or the total amount
25 of fees waived.

26 c. Nothing in this section shall affect the ability of an
27 arbitration organization to shift fees that would otherwise be
28 charged or assessed upon a consumer party to another party.

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30 4. a. Any arbitration organization that administers or otherwise
31 is involved in more than 50 consumer arbitrations per year shall
32 collect, publish at least quarterly, and make available to the public,
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36 party to the arbitration;

37 (2) The type of dispute involved, including, but not limited to,
38 goods, banking, insurance, health care, or employment. In the case
39 of arbitration involving employment, the amount of the employees'
40 annual wage divided into the following ranges:

41 (a) less than \$100,000;

42 (b) \$100,000 to \$250,000, inclusive; and

43 (c) more than \$250,000;

44 (3) Whether the consumer was the prevailing party;

45 (4) The number of occasions, if any, a business entity which is a
46 party to an arbitration, has previously been a party in an arbitration
47 or mediation administered by the arbitration organization;

48 (5) Whether the consumer was represented by an attorney;

S1490 BEACH

- 1 (6) The date the arbitration organization received the demand
2 for arbitration, the date the arbitrator was appointed, and the date of
3 disposition by the arbitrator or arbitration organization;
- 4 (7) The type of disposition of the dispute, if known, including
5 withdrawal, abandonment, settlement, award after hearing, award
6 without hearing, default, or dismissal without hearing;
- 7 (8) The amount of the claim, the amount of the award, and any
8 other relief granted, if any; and
- 9 (9) The name of the arbitrator, his or her total fee for the case,
10 and the percentage of the arbitrator's fee allocated to each party.
- 11 b. If the information required by subsection a. of this section is
12 provided by the arbitration organization in a computer-searchable
13 format through the company's Internet website and may be
14 downloaded without any fee, the company may charge the actual
15 cost of copying to any person who requests the information on
16 paper. If the information required by subsection a. of this section is
17 not accessible through the Internet, the company shall provide that
18 information without charge to any person who requests the
19 information on paper.
- 20 c. No arbitration organization shall be liable for collecting,
21 publishing, or distributing the information required by this section.

22

23 5. This act shall take effect on the 90th day following
24 enactment. This act shall apply to consumer arbitration commenced
25 on or after January 1, 2019, and shall operate only prospectively so
26 as not to prohibit the administration of consumer arbitrations on the
27 basis of financial interests held prior to January 1, 2019.

28
29

30 **STATEMENT**

31

32 This bill regulates arbitration organizations. Increasingly, when
33 a contract is signed between an individual and a business in a
34 consumer transaction, the contract contains an arbitration clause
35 that requires an arbitration organization to administer the
36 arbitration. The arbitration organization typically dictates the rules
37 governing the dispute and how the arbitrator is chosen. Under New
38 Jersey's current law, there are rules governing arbitrators and
39 arbitration generally, but there are no rules pertaining to the
40 regulation of arbitration organizations.

41 This bill prohibits a neutral arbitrator or arbitration organization
42 from administering any consumer arbitration that requires a non-
43 prevailing consumer who is a party to the arbitration to pay the
44 opposing party's costs or fees. The bill requires an arbitration
45 organization to waive the fees and costs of arbitration, exclusive of
46 arbitrator fees, for an indigent consumer. The bill also requires an
47 arbitration organization to provide written notice to any consumer

S1490 BEACH

1 of the right to obtain a fee waiver and to keep specified information
2 concerning a consumer confidential.

3 The bill further prohibits an arbitration organization from
4 administering consumer arbitration, or providing any other services
5 related to consumer arbitration, if the company has, or within the
6 preceding year has had, a financial interest in any party or attorney
7 for a party. The bill imposes similar limitations on the provision of
8 services by private arbitration companies based on the financial
9 interests of any party or attorney for a party in the arbitration
10 organization.

11 This bill also requires an arbitration organization involved in
12 consumer arbitration cases to make certain information regarding
13 those cases available to the public.

14 Finally, the bill does not apply to arbitrations conducted or
15 administered by a self-regulatory organization, as defined by the
16 federal "Securities Exchange Act of 1934," the "Commodity
17 Exchange Act," or regulations adopted under those acts.

SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE, No. 1490

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 14, 2019

The Senate Commerce Committee reports favorably a Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1490.

The committee substitute regulates arbitration organizations. Increasingly, when a contract is signed between an individual and a business in a consumer transaction, the contract contains an arbitration clause that requires an arbitration organization to administer the arbitration. In addition, the arbitration organization typically dictates the rules governing the dispute and how the arbitrator is chosen. Under New Jersey's current law, there are rules governing arbitrators and arbitration generally, but there are no rules pertaining to the regulation of arbitration organizations.

The committee substitute prohibits a neutral arbitrator or arbitration organization from administering any consumer arbitration that requires a non-prevailing consumer who is a party to the arbitration to pay the opposing party's costs or fees. The committee substitute requires an arbitration organization to waive the fees and costs of arbitration, exclusive of arbitrator fees, for an indigent consumer. In addition, the committee substitute requires an arbitration organization to provide written notice to any consumer of the right to obtain a fee waiver and to keep specified information concerning a consumer confidential.

The committee substitute provides that any consumer requesting a waiver of fees or costs may establish eligibility by making a declaration under oath of the consumer's monthly income and the number of persons living in the consumer's household on a form provided by the arbitration organization and signed by the consumer. An arbitration organization may not require a consumer to provide any further statement or evidence of indigence.

The committee substitute further prohibits an arbitration organization from administering consumer arbitration, or providing any other services related to consumer arbitration, if the company has, or within the preceding year has had, a financial interest in any party or attorney for a party. The committee substitute imposes similar limitations on the provision of services by private arbitration companies based on the financial interests of any party or attorney for a party in the arbitration organization.

The committee substitute also requires an arbitration organization involved in consumer arbitration cases to make certain information regarding those cases available to the public.

Finally, the committee substitute does not apply to arbitrations conducted or administered by a self-regulatory organization, as defined by the federal “Securities Exchange Act of 1934,” the “Commodity Exchange Act,” or regulations adopted under those acts.

The Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1490 is the same as Assembly Bill No. 4972(ACS), as amended and reported by the committee.

STATEMENT TO
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE, No. 1490

with Senate Floor Amendments
(Proposed by Senator BEACH)

ADOPTED: DECEMBER 16, 2019

This amendment provides that any position-holder in a non-profit organization who is not compensated for holding that position shall not be considered to have a financial interest in the organization. The bill prohibits arbitration organizations from administering consumer arbitrations in which the arbitration organization has a financial interest.

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

01/21/2020

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

S-62/A-2478 (Singleton, Oroho/DeAngelo, Houghtaling, Space) – Requires certain contractors to register under "The Public Works Contractor Registration Act"

S-358/A-4587 (Rice/Sumter, Reynolds-Jackson) – Establishes database with certain information about individuals elected to public office in this State

S-376/A-3839 (Madden, Gopal/Moriarty, Lagana, Mukherji, Murphy) – Eliminates eligibility time limit on tuition benefits for spouses of certain public safety workers killed in performance of their duties

S-497/A-4626 (Vitale, Madden/Mosquera, McKnight, Vainieri Huttle) – Allows certain prior statements by children to be admitted into evidence in child abuse and termination of parental rights cases

S-498/ACS for A-3391 (Vitale, Oroho/DeCroce, Johnson, DiMaso) – Makes various changes to "Criminal Injuries Compensation Act of 1971"

S-521/A-4378 (T. Kean, C.A. Brown, Pou, Ruiz/Caputo, Mukherji, Vainieri Huttle) – Requires NJ State Council on Arts to establish "Artist District" designation and select certain municipalities or areas within municipalities for such designation

S-589/ACS for A-422 (Weinberg/Mosquera, Jones, Moriarty) – Requires Secretary of State to establish secure Internet website for online voter registration; authorizes use of digitized signatures from New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission's database

S-700/A-3836 (Ruiz, Cunningham/Schaer, Mukherji, Jasey) – "Higher Education Citizenship Equality Act"; defines domicile for dependent students for purpose of eligibility for State student grants and scholarships, and resident tuition rate

S-721/A-1751 (Greenstein, Cunningham, Diegnan/Quijano, Benson) – Authorizes use of certain electric school buses

S-758/A-1987 (Cunningham, Cruz-Perez/Sumter, Mukherji, Quijano) – Requires incarcerated individual from State to be counted at residential address for legislative redistricting purposes

S-765/A-541 (Cunningham, T. Kean, Ruiz/Mazzeo, Jasey, Vainieri Huttle, Sumter, Benson) – Prohibits Higher Education Student Assistance Authority from referring defaulted loans under New Jersey College Loans to Assist State Students (NJCLASS) Loan Program for certain actions if authority and borrower have entered into settlement agreement

S-782/A-1110 (Sarlo, Scutari/Downey, Houghtaling, Dancer) – Increases workers' compensation for loss of hand or foot

S-834 wGR/A-4186 (Scutari, Greenstein/Jones, Pintor Marin) – Prohibits resale of non-prescription diabetes test devices by pharmacists

S-939/A-3331 (Pou/Vainieri Huttle, Lopez, McKnight) – Requires forms and materials for individuals with developmental disabilities to be available in languages other than English

S-974/A-3040 (Singleton, T. Kean/Vainieri Huttle, Timberlake, Mosquera) – Requires newborn infants be screened for spinal muscular atrophy

- S-1032/A-2389 (Vitale, Gopal/Schaer, Benson, Verrelli)** – Concerns expansion of services provided by DHS mental health screening services
- S-1146/A-2365 (Codey, Rice/Vainieri Huttle, Mukherji, Downey)** – Requires hospital patient's medical record to include notation if patient is at increased risk of confusion, agitation, behavioral problems, and wandering due to dementia related disorder
- S-1298/ACS for A-2972 (A.M. Bucco, Singleton/Mazzeo, Dunn, Space)** – Permits municipalities to provide information on property tax bills concerning amount of local tax dollars saved through shared services
- S-1318/A-3156 (Ruiz, Scutari/Lampitt, Mosquera)** – Permits counties and non-governmental, community-based agencies to establish family justice centers which provide coordinated, multi-agency governmental and non-governmental assistance to victims of certain crimes and offenses, including domestic violence, and their family members
- S-1505/A-1707 (Vitale/Vainieri Huttle, Lampitt, Benson, Mosquera)** – Expands membership of NJ Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect
- S-1647/A-3181 (Diegnan, Codey/Conaway, Vainieri Huttle, Benson, Murphy)** – Prohibits use of coupons, price rebates, and price reduction promotions in sales of tobacco and vapor products
- S-1683/A-4267 (Smith, Greenstein/McKeon, Space, Wirths)** – Concerns regulation of solid waste, hazardous waste, and soil and fill recycling industries
- S-1703/A-715 (Connors, Holzapfel/Gove, Rumpf, DiMaso)** – Exempts disabled veterans from beach buggy permit fees
- S-1791/A-3414 (Weinberg/Johnson, Vainieri Huttle, Houghtaling)** – Requires employers to disclose certain wage information to employees
- S-1796/A-4693 (Addiego, Sweeney/Murphy)** – Permits school district of residence to provide aid in-lieu-of transportation to pupil attending Marine Academy of Science and Technology provided certain conditions are met
- S-1832/A-211 (Ruiz, Sarlo/Chiaravalloti, Zwicker, Pintor Marin)** – Establishes loan redemption program and tuition reimbursement program for certain teachers of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics
- S-2267/A-3616 (Sweeney, Corrado/Burzichelli, Holley, Calabrese)** – Gives State lottery winners option of remaining anonymous indefinitely
- S-2303/A-4843 (Sweeney, Ruiz, Cunningham/Wimberly, Karabinchak, Calabrese)** – Requires establishment of Work and Learn Consortiums by certain educational institutions to establish certificate and degree programs identified in high labor-demand industries
- S-2389 wGR/A-5449 (Singleton/Quijano, Downey, Houghtaling, Moriarty)** – Requires New Jersey State Board of Pharmacy to establish prescription drug pricing disclosure website and certain pharmaceutical manufacturing companies to provide prescription drug price information
- S-2428/A-4965 (Scutari/Quijano, Vainieri Huttle)** – Requires that massage and bodywork therapists and employers carry professional liability insurance
- S-2469/A-3745 (Singleton, Oroho/Wirths, Mazzeo, Space)** – Prohibits person from contracting for public work if person is federally debarred from receiving federal contract
- S-2511/A-4020 (Madden/Mazzeo, Murphy, Johnson)** – Changes title of DEP "conservation officer" to "conservation police officer"
- S-2521/A-4087 (Cryan, Greenstein/Vainieri Huttle, Lopez, Timberlake)** – Requires reporting of inmate abuse by employees of State correctional facilities and establishes reporting and investigation program
- S-2522/A-4090 (Cryan, Greenstein/Vainieri Huttle, Lopez, Timberlake)** – Limits cross gender strip searches in

State correctional facilities

S-2532/A-4086 (Greenstein, Cruz-Perez/Vainieri Huttle, Lopez, Timberlake) – Requires correctional police officers receive 20 hours in-service training, including four hours in prevention of sexual misconduct, non-fraternization, and manipulation

S-2555/A-3990 (Gopal, Ruiz/Mukherji, Benson, Karabinchak) – Allows dependent students whose parents or guardians hold H-1B visas to qualify for in-State tuition at public institutions of higher education provided they meet certain criteria

S-2564/A-3519 (Turner, Singleton/Benson, McKnight, Jasey) – Establishes "Restorative Justice in Education Pilot Program" in Department of Education

SCS for S-2599/ACS for A-1268 (Bateman, Beach/Tucker, Conaway, Lampitt, Quijano) – Authorizes veterans' property tax exemption and veterans' property tax deduction for honorably discharged veterans of United States Armed Forces who did not serve in time of war or other emergency

S-2826/A-3274 (Greenstein/Vainieri Huttle, Dancer, Benson) – Requires institutions of higher education to offer cats and dogs no longer used for educational, research, or scientific purposes for adoption; designated the "Homes for Animal Heroes Act"

S-2849/A-4590 (A.M. Bucco/DiMaio, Caputo, Dunn) – Designates Seeing Eye® dog as State Dog

S-3036/A-1697 (Lagana, Scutari/Dancer, Downey) – Prohibits medical providers from reporting certain workers' compensation medical charges to collection and credit reporting agencies

S-3061/A-4603 (Ruiz, Greenstein/Lampitt, Mukherji, Benson) – Provides corporation business tax and gross income tax credits for businesses that participate in DOL registered apprenticeship programs; establishes grant program for tax-exempt organizations participating in DOL registered apprenticeship programs

S-3065/A-4657 (Ruiz, Singleton/Armato, Benson, Timberlake) – Establishes youth apprenticeship pilot program in Department of Education

S-3067/A-4602 (Ruiz, Singleton/Lampitt, Reynolds-Jackson, Sumter) – Establishes five year Apprentice Assistance and Support Services Pilot Program

S-3116/A-4683 (Ruiz/Speight, Munoz, Tucker) – Requires certain medical facilities to undertake end-of-life planning and training

S-3117/A-4685 (Ruiz/Speight, Pinkin, Munoz) – Requires emergency departments to take certain measures concerning palliative care for patients

S-3126/A-4107 (Gopal/Benson, DeCroce, Chiaravalloti) – Requires drivers to stop at railroad crossing when on-track equipment is approaching railroad crossing

S-3170/A-5145 (Cryan, Pou/Quijano, Milam, Land) – Increases prenotification time and requires severance pay in certain plant closings, transfers, and mass layoffs

S-3227/A-5261 (Gopal/Tully, Pinkin, Swain) – Requires restaurants to post signs advising customers to notify servers of food allergies; requires restaurant managers to complete food allergen training

S-3265/A-3178 (Turner, Codey, Vitale/Conaway, Murphy, Vainieri Huttle) – Prohibits sale or distribution of flavored vapor products

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S-3330 wGR/A-5066 (Addiego, Singleton/Jones, Vainieri Huttle, Lampitt, Murphy) – Establishes pilot program in DCF to study impact of child care services provided by community providers operating in public school facilities; requires community providers to meet certain criteria

S-3422/A-6056 (Singer, T. Kean/Houghtaling, Downey, Vainieri Huttle) – Requires declaration of Code Blue

alert when National Weather Service predicts temperatures of 32 degrees Fahrenheit or lower

S-3468/A-5105 (Sweeney, Singleton/Murphy, Karabinchak, Vainieri Huttle) – Establishes Task Force on Maximizing Employment for People with Disabilities

S-3511/A-5298 (Singer, T. Kean/Mukherji, Vainieri Huttle, Downey) – Authorizes certain health care and social service resources to be made available during Code Blue alert

S-3581/A-5963 (Singleton/Lopez, Quijano) – Prohibits certain business financing contracts that contain judgment by confession provisions

S-3685/A-5345 (Sarlo, Singleton/Mukherji, Conaway, McKnight) – Establishes program to increase participation of underrepresented students in New Jersey's science and engineering workforce

S-3756/A-6115 (Ruiz, Sarlo, O'Scanlon/Jasey, Jones, Wirths) – Requires limited purpose regional school districts to coordinate with constituent districts regarding school calendar and curriculum

S-3763/A-6116 (Addiego, Bateman, Sarlo/DeAngelo, Dancer, Space) – Renames joint meetings as regional service agencies; grandfathers existing joint meetings

S-3869/A-5561 (Sarlo/Burzichelli, Houghtaling) – Prohibits local governments from imposing fines on alarm companies in certain circumstances

S-3871/A-5427 (Bateman, Scutari/DePhillips, McKeon) – Adds member from Retired Judges Association of New Jersey to State Investment Council

SCS for S-3878/ACS for A-5394 (Ruiz, Weinberg, Cunningham/Moriarty, McKnight, Pinkin) – Reaffirms and clarifies that Attorney General and Division on Civil Rights may initiate actions in Superior Court to enforce "Law Against Discrimination"

S-3920 wGR/A-5552 (Pou/Wimberly, Sumter) – Concerns provision of energy to certain manufacturing facilities by providing exemptions to certain energy related taxes

S-3923/A-5680 (Madden, Singleton/Giblin, Timberlake, Murphy) – Concerns labor harmony agreements for hospitality projects

SCS for S-3939 and 3944/ACS for A-5681 and 5682 (Smith, Greenstein, Bateman, Codey/Pinkin, Lopez, McKeon) – Establishes Recycling Market Development Council

S-3985/A-5663 (Smith/McKeon, Pinkin, Vainieri Huttle) – Amends "Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act" to add definition of "open access offshore wind transmission facility" and revises law concerning "qualified offshore wind projects"

S-4025/A-5695 (Pou/Wimberly, Sumter) – Makes FY 2020 language allocation of \$1,000,000 appropriated to Grants for Urban Parks to Hinchliffe Stadium in Paterson

S-4162/A-6014 (Smith, Greenstein/Vainieri Huttle, Pinkin, Houghtaling) – Establishes NJ Climate Change Resource Center at Rutgers University; appropriates up to \$500,000

S-4165/A-4364 (Rice/Giblin, Caputo, Tucker) – Expands University Hospital board of directors membership from 11 to 13 members

S-4188/A-6075 (Beach/Murphy, Dancer, Lampitt) – "Lindsay's Law"; provides tax benefits to organ and bone marrow donors and their employers, and provides paid time off to donors who are State or local government employees

S-4200/A-5855 (Ruiz, Turner/Coughlin, Lampitt, Holley) – Requires State to pay difference between federal allocation and total cost of reduced price breakfast or lunch; appropriates \$4.5 million

S-4247/A-6049 (Gopal, O'Scanlon/Conaway, Houghtaling, Downey) – Establishes criteria for distribution of Fiscal Year 2020 funding to Community Food Bank of New Jersey and partner organizations

S-4264/A-5962 (Pou/Wimberly, Sumter, Calabrese) – Designates State Highway Route 19 as "William J. Pascrell Jr. Highway"

S-4275/A-6088 (Smith, Greenstein/Burzichelli) – Allows BPU to increase cost to customers of Class I renewable energy requirement for energy years 2022 through 2024, under certain conditions

S-4276/A-6109 (Corrado, Bateman/Armato, Calabrese, Land) – Appropriates \$32,153,936 to State Agriculture Development Committee, and amends 2017 appropriations for stewardship activities, for farmland preservation purposes

S-4277/A-6112 (Greenstein, Bateman/Freiman, Danielsen, Downey) – Appropriates \$5,000,000 from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues to State Agriculture Development Committee for municipal planning incentive grants for farmland preservation purposes

S-4278/A-6108 (Greenstein, Bateman/Taliaferro, Karabinchak, Kennedy) – Appropriates \$21 million from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues to State Agriculture Development Committee for county planning incentive grants for farmland preservation purposes

S-4279/A-6106 (Smith, Bateman/Houghtaling, Reynolds-Jackson, Pinkin) – Appropriates \$1,350,000 from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues to State Agriculture Development Committee for grants to certain nonprofit organizations for farmland preservation purposes

S-4286/A-5890 (Vitale/Swain, Jones) – Clarifies procedures concerning collection of child support on behalf of child over age 19 when court has ordered such support

S-4309/A-6107 (Turner, Cruz-Perez/Mejia, Vainieri Huttie, Zwicker) – Appropriates \$13,902,723 from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues to NJ Historic Trust for grants for certain historic preservation projects and associated administrative expenses

S-4310/A-6114 (Codey, Bateman/Carter, Murphy, Lopez) – Appropriates \$8,872,682 to DEP from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues for grants to certain nonprofit entities to acquire or develop lands for recreation and conservation purposes

S-4311/A-6113 (Greenstein, Bateman/Speight, Mukherji, Verrelli) – Appropriates \$77,450,448 from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues and various Green Acres funds to DEP for local government open space acquisition and park development projects

S-4312/A-6111 (Smith, Bateman/Giblin, Mazzeo, Land) – Appropriates \$36.143 million from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues for recreation and conservation purposes to DEP for State capital and park development projects

S-4313/A-6110 (Corrado, Bateman/Moriarty, McKeon, Swain) – Appropriates \$33.915 million from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues to DEP for State acquisition of lands for recreation and conservation purposes, including Blue Acres projects

SCS for S-4315/ACS for A-6063 (Beach, Turner/Jones, Zwicker) – Creates fund to reimburse local units of government for cost of certain mail-in ballot procedures; appropriates \$3,000,000

SJR-51/AJR-189 (Rice, Turner/Verrelli, Reynolds-Jackson, Sumter) – Establishes the "New Jersey State Commission on Urban Violence"

SJR-65/AJR-90 (Weinberg, Addiego/DiMaso, Vainieri Huttie, Schepisi) – Designates March 19th "Women in Public Office Day" in New Jersey

SJR-80/AJR-121 (Lagana, Weinberg/Jones, Benson, Chiaravalloti, DeCroce) – Urges federal government to adhere to commitment to improve Northeast Corridor rail infrastructure by providing funding to complete Gateway Program

SJR-125/AJR-169 (Gopal, Codey/Wolfe, Pinkin) – Designates the second week of October of each year as "Obesity Care Week" in NJ

- A-344/S-1575 (Murphy, McKeon, Timberlake/Cruz-Perez, Singleton)** – Revises certain aspects of the New Jersey Individual Development Account Program
- A-1040/S-3928 (Houghtaling, Taliaferro/Andrzejczak)** – Establishes NJ "Landowner of the Year" award program
- A-1146/S-4330 (Wimberly, Holley/Pou, Singleton)** – Establishes "New Jersey Investing in You Promise Neighborhood Commission"
- A-1277/S-2629 (Tucker, Holley, Lopez/Singleton, Gopal)** – Requires hospitals and homeless shelters to provide information on services and resources to individuals who are homeless or military veterans
- A-1449/S-3168 (Benson, DeAngelo/Greenstein, Turner)** – Provides job security to certain organ and bone marrow donors
- A-1477/S-3228 (Chaparro, Vainieri Huttle, Benson, Jimenez, Mukherji, Downey/Gopal, Scutari)** – Establishes Statewide Hit and Run Advisory Program to facilitate apprehension of persons fleeing motor vehicle accident scene; designated as "Zackhary's Law"
- A-1478/S-1648 (Chaparro, Vainieri Huttle/Diegnan, T. Kean)** – Revises law governing theater liquor licenses
- A-1604/S-2734 (Conaway, Murphy, Jimenez/Singleton)** – "Recreational Therapists Licensing Act"
- A-1796/S-2609 (McKeon, Downey/Lagana, Gopal)** – Prevents criminal defendant from asserting "gay and transgender panic" defense to murder charge in order to reduce charge to manslaughter committed in heat of passion
- A-1924/S-2930 (Mukherji, A.M. Bucco, DeAngelo, DeCroce/Beach)** – Exempts certain honorably discharged United States military veterans from initial insurance producer licensing fee
- A-1992/S-1780 (Sumter, Benson, Vainieri Huttle, Houghtaling, Wimberly/Diegnan, Turner)** – "New Jersey Call Center Jobs Act"
- A-2183/S-1687 (Land, Johnson/Cruz-Perez, Andrzejczak)** – "Music Therapist Licensing Act"
- ACS for A-2431 wGR/SCS for S-1865 (Benson, Jimenez, DeCroce/Weinberg, T. Kean)** – Requires health insurers to provide plans that limit patient cost-sharing concerning certain prescription drug coverage
- ACS for A-2444 and S-2656/S-2081 (Benson, Lampitt, Pinkin, Mukherji/Turner, Singleton)** – Provides for coverage of comprehensive tobacco cessation benefits in Medicaid
- A-2767/S-2924 (Greenwald, Mosquera, McKnight/Greenstein, Singleton)** – Amends certain provisions of sexual assault statute to clarify elements necessary for conviction
- A-3312/S-1972 (Murphy, Lagana, Downey, Sumter/Gopal, Corrado)** – Requires Legislature to adopt and distribute policy prohibiting sexual harassment; requires members, officers, and employees of Legislature to complete online training on policy once every two years
- A-3670/S-995 (Benson, Giblin, Murphy/Vitale, Weinberg)** – Provides for designation of acute stroke ready hospitals, establishes Stroke Care Advisory Panel and Statewide stroke database, and requires development of emergency medical services stroke care protocols
- ACS for A-4136/SCS for S-2675 (Land, Milam/Andrzejczak, Van Drew)** – Establishes Possession In Excess of Daily Limit Vessel License for black sea bass and summer flounder; dedicates fees therefrom to marine fisheries programs
- A-4147/S-2744 (Lampitt, Houghtaling, Zwicker/Ruiz, Corrado)** – Requires school districts and nonpublic schools to conduct audit of security features of buildings, grounds, and communication systems and to submit audit to NJ Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness and DOE

- A-4150/S-2742 (Lampitt, Jones, Timberlake/Ruiz, Corrado)** – Requires meeting between student and appropriate school personnel after multiple suspensions or proposed expulsion from public school to identify behavior or health difficulties
- A-4151/S-2745 (Swain, Tully, Jasey/Ruiz, Corrado)** – Requires school security training for persons employed by public and nonpublic schools in substitute capacity and for employees and volunteers of youth programs operated in school buildings
- A-4260/S-4335 (Timberlake, Giblin, Tucker, Caputo/Pou, Scutari)** – Prohibits sale of certain toy guns and imitation firearms
- A-4370/S-2919 (Carroll/A.M. Bucco)** – Increases membership of board of trustees of Washington Association of New Jersey
- A-4377/S-2934 (Benson, Land, DeCroce/Greenstein)** – Requires DOT and OIT to develop materials concerning capabilities of airports in NJ and establishes "Public Use Airports Task Force"
- A-4517/S-4341 (Wimberly, Speight, Reynolds-Jackson/Singleton, Cunningham)** – Establishes "New Jersey Eviction Crisis Task Force"
- A-4529/S-3191 (Mazzeo, Armato/Gopal, Andrezejczak)** – Concerns reimbursements to Superstorm Sandy-impacted homeowners subjected to contractor fraud
- A-4563/S-3096 (Zwicker, Benson/Greenstein, Gill)** – Prohibits use of bots to deceive person about origin and content of communication for certain commercial or election purposes
- A-4564/S-3087 (Zwicker, Freiman/Greenstein)** – Establishes "Voting Precinct Transparency Act;" requires filing of election district, county district, and municipal ward boundary data with Secretary of State for posting and download on official website with matching election results data
- A-4699/S-2938 (Moriarty, Burzichelli, Bramnick/Turner)** – Regulates annual report filing services
- A-4803/S-4211 (Greenwald, Johnson, Pintor Marin/Cryan, Vitale)** – Authorizes certain entities to directly bill Victims of Crime Compensation Office for counseling services provided to victims of firearm and stabbing crimes
- A-4822/S-3408 (Wimberly, Tully, Swain/Singleton, Greenstein)** – Permits municipalities to lease vacant municipal land for tiny home occupancy; directs DCA to enhance regulatory guidance on acceptable tiny home construction and use
- A-4904 wGR/S-3347 (Mukherji, Quijano, Mazzeo/Cryan, Sweeney)** – Concerns property taxes due and owing on real property owned by certain federal employees or contractors under certain circumstances
- A-4954/S-3368 (Quijano, Murphy, Carter/Singleton, Greenstein)** – Revises requirements for provision of counseling and support services to emergency services personnel
- ACS for A-4972/SCS for S-1490 (Moriarty/Beach, Scutari)** – Establishes certain consumer protections related to arbitration organizations
- A-4978 wGR/S-3498 (Timberlake, Zwicker, Vainieri Huttle/Greenstein, Cryan)** – Prohibits online education services from using and disclosing certain information, engaging in targeted advertising, and requires deletion of certain information in certain circumstances
- A-5023/S-3467 (McKnight, Mukherji, Chaparro, Chiaravalloti/Cunningham)** – Exempts from DOT permitting requirements certain signs not located in protected areas that have been approved by municipality
- A-5028/S-3523 (Mukherji, Conaway, Pintor Marin/Vitale, Diegnan)** – Establishes "James Nicholas Rentas's Law," revises "New Jersey SmokeFree Air Act"
- A-5029/S-3522 (Sumter, Reynolds-Jackson, Johnson/Rice, T. Kean)** – Requires New Jersey Office on Minority and Multicultural Health to study racial disparities on sexual and reproductive health of African-American women

A-5031/S-3455 (Speight, McKnight, Timberlake/Ruiz) – Requires hospital emergency departments to ask person of childbearing age about recent pregnancy history

A-5314/S-3692 (Zwicker, Milam, Mazzeo/Cryan, Ruiz) – Requires DHS to study social isolation occurring in certain population groups

A-5344/S-3833 (Mukherji, Vainieri Huttel, Milam/Gopal, Corrado) – Establishes uniform standard for acceptable proof of veteran status for veteran's ID cards and various State and local programs

A-5388/S-3895 (Speight, Pintor Marin, Greenwald/Greenstein, Ruiz) – Requires specialized in-service training regarding crime victims for police departments in certain high-crime areas

A-5389/S-3896 (Speight, Pintor Marin, Greenwald/Greenstein, Ruiz) – Requires training or experience in crime victims' rights for certain members of Victims of Crime Compensation Review Board

A-5432/S-3796 (Milam, Land/Andrzejczak) – Requires DEP Commissioner to establish individual transferable quota system for menhaden purse seine fishery

A-5445/S-3909 (Swain, Tully, Spearman/T. Kean, Corrado) – Requires AG to establish program to detect fentanyl in State's illegal drug supply and make information related to presence of fentanyl available in database accessible by law enforcement

A-5511/S-1852 (Spearman, Jones, Reynolds-Jackson/Turner, Cruz-Perez) – Revises certain penalties for illegal operation of snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle, or dirt bike

A-5580/S-3842 (Johnson, Moriarty, Greenwald/Weinberg, Sarlo) – Extends availability period for tax credits for certain expenses incurred for production of certain film and digital media content, raises annual cap related to film production, and provides for annual administration of film tax credits

A-5583/S-3919 (Pinkin, Lopez, Mukherji/Smith, Bateman) – Prohibits sale, lease, rent, or installation of certain equipment or products containing hydrofluorocarbons or other greenhouse gases

A-5630/S-3981 (Pintor Marin, Munoz, Reynolds-Jackson/Weinberg, Corrado) – Requires Civil Service Commission to establish and maintain hotline for State employees to submit reports of workplace discrimination and harassment

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A-5667/S-3933 (Mukherji, Vainieri Huttel, Armato, DeCroce, Karabinchak/Singer, Scutari) – "Charlie's Law"; requires pharmacy practice sites and hospice programs to furnish patients with information and means to safely dispose of unused prescription drugs and medications

A-5801/S-4064 (Coughlin, Houghtaling, Verrelli/Singleton, Sweeney) – Concerns responsibility of contractors for wage claims against subcontractors

A-5817/S-4263 (Mazzeo, Armato/Cunningham, Sweeney, C.A. Brown) – Allows certain persons to qualify for casino key employee license and casino employee registration

A-5916/S-4255 (Chiaravalloti, McKnight, Karabinchak/Cunningham, Weinberg) – Authorizes DOH to notify elected officials of financial distress of certain hospitals

A-5918/SCS for S-3741 and 4253 (Chiaravalloti, McKnight/Weinberg, Cunningham, Vitale) – Expands hospital reporting requirements

A-5970/S-4201 (Lopez, Speight, Chaparro/Codey) – Amends list of environmental infrastructure projects approved for long-term funding for FY2020 to include new projects, remove certain projects, and modify estimated loan amounts for certain projects

A-5971/S-4202 (Mukherji, Pintor Marin, Spearman/Bateman, Corrado) – Authorizes NJ Infrastructure Bank to expend additional sums to make loans for environmental infrastructure projects for FY2020

A-5972/S-4203 (Pinkin, Benson, Zwicker/Greenstein, Singleton) – Makes changes to New Jersey Infrastructure Bank's enabling act

A-5977/S-4282 (Greenwald, Downey, Vainieri Huttie/Vitale, Singleton) – Provides for establishment of Regional Health Hub Program as replacement to Accountable Care Organization Demonstration Project, and designates existing accountable care organizations and look-alike organizations as Regional Health Hubs

A-6119/S-4336 (Egan, Houghtaling/Madden) – Revises "The Public Works Contractor Registration Act" and amends definition of registered apprenticeship program

AJR-35/SJR-159 (McKnight, Chaparro, Chiaravalloti, DeCroce/Cunningham, Greenstein) – Designates third full week in March as "Domestic Violence Services Awareness Week" to bring awareness of services available to domestic violence victims

AJR-103/SJR-70 (Rooney, DePhillips, Murphy/Corrado) – Permanently designates January as "NUT Carcinoma Awareness Month" in New Jersey

AJR-118/SJR-157 (McKnight, Timberlake, McKeon/Pou, Madden) – Designates April of each year as "Financial Literacy Month" in New Jersey

AJR-180/SJR-112 (DeAngelo, McKnight, Murphy/Singleton, Corrado) – Designates February in each year as "Career and Technical Education Month" in New Jersey

Governor Murphy declined to sign the following bills, meaning they expire without becoming law:

S-691/A-657 (Ruiz, Pou/Jasey, Caputo, Pintor Marin, Sumter, Wimberly) – Requires that if a school district satisfies 80% or more of the required NJ Quality Single Accountability Continuum standards in an area of district effectiveness under State intervention, the State must return that area to local control

S-1083/A-544 (Cruz-Perez, Gopal/Mazzeo, Houghtaling, Holley, Dancer) – Establishes loan program and provides corporation business tax and gross income tax credits for establishment of new vineyards and wineries

S-2421/A-1030 (Smith, Bateman/Johnson, Kennedy, Benson, DeAngelo) – Concerns installation of electric vehicle charging stations in common interest communities

S-2425/A-3851 (Singleton, Andrzejczak/Conaway) – Revises law relating to common interest communities

S-2429/A-4028 (Scutari, Pou/Bramnick, Downey) – Requires automobile insurers to disclose policy limits upon request by an attorney under certain circumstances

S-2835/A-3926 (Singleton, Ruiz/Conaway, Lampitt, Murphy) – Requires public schools to administer written screenings for depression for students in certain grades

S-2897/A-1433 (Madden, Singer/Benson, Wimberly, Carter) – Requires DCA to establish procedures for inspection and abatement of mold hazards in residential buildings and school facilities, and certification programs for mold inspectors and mold hazard abatement workers

S-2957/A-4712 (Stack/Mukherji, Chaparro) – Establishes five-year moratorium on conversions of certain residential rental premises in qualified counties

S-2958/A-4535 (Sarlo, Oroho/Zwicker, DePhillips, DeCroce) – Establishes the "Energy Infrastructure Public-Private Partnership Act"

S-3062/A-2049 (Ruiz, Greenstein/Howarth, Benson, Murphy) – Provides corporation business tax and gross income tax credits for businesses that employ apprentices in DOL registered apprenticeships

S-3063/A-4655 (Ruiz/Armato, Vainieri Huttie, DeAngelo) – Provides tuition fee waiver apprenticeship courses

S-3137/A-1308 (Sweeney, Oroho, Singleton/Greenwald, Milam, Land) – The "Electronic Construction Procurement Act"

S-3252/A-4713 (Greenstein, Stack/DeAngelo, Quijano) – "New Townhouse Fire Safety Act"; requires automatic fire sprinkler systems in new townhomes

S-3263/A-4837 (T. Kean, Diegnan/Vainieri Huttie, Chiaravalloti, McKnight) – Revises and updates membership and purpose of Advisory Council on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in DHS

S-3270/A-5095 (Pou/McKeon, Freiman, DeCroce) – Establishes certain requirements for stop loss insurance offered to small employers

S-3393/ACS for A-5384 and 5157 (Sarlo, Addiego/Mazzeo, Murphy, Houghtaling, Calabrese, Armato, Dancer) – Allows certain preserved farms to hold 14 special occasion events per year; imposes further event restrictions on residentially-exposed preserved farms

S-3770/A-6118 (Sarlo, Oroho, Sweeney/Greenwald, Jones) – Establishes "New Jersey Economic and Fiscal Policy Review Commission" to provide ongoing review of State and local tax structure, economic conditions, and related fiscal issues

S-3888/A-5585 (Ruiz/Dancer, Pintor Marin) – Extends document submission deadlines under Economic Redevelopment and Growth Grant program and Urban Transit Hub Tax Credit program

S-4035/A-5702 (Pou, Singleton/Wimberly, Reynolds-Jackson, Sumter) – Makes Fiscal Year 2020 supplemental appropriation of \$1,700,000 for Thomas Edison State University

S-4281/A-6094 (Smith, Diegnan/Danielsen, Pinkin) – Requires State to sell and convey to Educational Services Commission of New Jersey certain land and improvements known as Piscataway Regional Day School

S-4331/A-4727 (Diegnan, Madden/Karabinchak, Holley, Jones) – Requires person taking written examination for permit to watch video of rights and responsibilities of driver stopped by law enforcement; requires testing on rights and responsibilities of driver stopped by law enforcement

A-491/S-4340 (Jimenez/Sacco, Stack) – Enhances PFRS accidental death pension for surviving spouse by providing for minimum of \$50,000 annually

A-1044/S-1441 (Houghtaling, Downey, DiMaio, Space/Doherty, Madden) – Requires Director of Division of Taxation to examine feasibility of centralized property tax information system to verify property taxes paid by homestead property tax reimbursement claimants

A-1045/S-2856 (Houghtaling, Downey, Dancer/Gopal, Oroho) – Clarifies sales tax collection responsibilities of horse-boarding businesses in New Jersey

A-1526/S-1048 (Zwicker, Johnson/Vitale) – Concerns payment of independent contractors

A-2731/S-3407 (Taliaferro, Space/Sweeney, Oroho) – Removes statutory limitation on number of permits that may be issued by Division of Fish and Wildlife for the taking of beaver

A-4382/S-2815 (Pinkin, Lopez, Kennedy/Beach, Smith) – Requires paint producers to implement or participate in paint stewardship program

A-4463/S-3927 (Freiman, Egan, Karabinchak/Oroho, Andrzejczak) – Establishes "Electronic Permit Processing Review System"

A-4788/S-3880 (Karabinchak, Freiman, Calabrese/Diegnan) – Establishes expedited construction inspection program

A-5072/S-3496 (Karabinchak, Johnson, Mukherji/Greenstein, Cryan) – "Defense Against Porch Pirates Act"; creates new category of theft, with penalties including mandatory restitution and community service, for taking package delivered to residence by cargo carrier

A-5446/S-3907 (Land, Reynolds-Jackson, Verrelli/T. Kean, Lagana) – Requires reporting of opioid deaths

A-5629/S-3980 (Pintor Marin, Munoz/Weinberg, Corrado) – Clarifies provisions concerning disclosure of existence and content of discrimination or harassment complaints; requires certain disclosures to person against whom complaint is made

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ACS for A-5922 and 5923/SCS for S-4223 and 4224 (Conaway, Vainieri Huttle, Lopez, Pinkin/Vitale, Sweeney) – Revises requirements for sale of tobacco and vapor products; increases penalties for prohibited sales; increases fees for cigarette and vapor business licensure

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