

27:25-5d
LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2020 **CHAPTER:** 62
NJSA: 27:25-5d (Requires NJT to operate Access Link paratransit service during state of emergency under certain circumstances.)
BILL NO: S362 (Substituted for A1155)
SPONSOR(S) Joseph P. Cryan and others

DATE INTRODUCED: 1/14/2020

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** Transportation & Independent Authorities
 SENATE: Transportation

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: **ASSEMBLY:** 7/30/2020

SENATE: 2/10/2010

DATE OF APPROVAL: 8/12/2020

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (Introduced bill enacted) Yes

S362

INTRODUCED BILL (INCLUDES SPONSOR’S STATEMENT): Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** Yes

SENATE: Yes

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, **may possibly** be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

A1155

INTRODUCED BILL (INCLUDES SPONSOR’S STATEMENT): Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** Yes

SENATE: No

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, **may possibly** be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:

Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or <mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org>

REPORTS:

No

HEARINGS:

No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:

No

Also, of possible interest:

Committee meeting of Senate Select Committee on New Jersey Transit: the Committee will take testimony from invited guests on best practices of transit agencies for providing service to persons with disabilities

[January 16, 2020, Trenton, New Jersey]

Call number: 974.90 T764, 2020a

Available online at <https://dspace.njstatelib.org/handle/10929/56651>

RWH/CL

P.L. 2020, CHAPTER 62, *approved August 12, 2020*
Senate, No. 362

1 AN ACT concerning the Access Link paratransit service and
2 supplementing P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-1 et seq.).
3

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

7 1. a. The New Jersey Transit Corporation shall operate, or
8 cause to be operated, its Access Link service in an area of the State
9 under a state of emergency if the New Jersey Transit General
10 Manager of ADA Services determines, in consultation with the
11 Director of the State Office of Emergency Management, that Access
12 Link service in that area may be safely provided without undue risk
13 of harm to drivers and persons using the service.

14 b. As used in this section:

15 “Access Link” shall have the same meaning as provided in
16 section 2 of P.L.2016, c.25 (C.27:25-5c); and

17 “State of emergency” means a natural or man-made disaster or
18 emergency for which a state of emergency has been declared by the
19 Governor.
20

21 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
22
23

24 _____
25
26 Requires NJT to operate Access Link paratransit service during
27 state of emergency under certain circumstances.

SENATE, No. 362

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH P. CRYAN

District 20 (Union)

SYNOPSIS

Requires NJT to operate Access Link paratransit service during state of emergency under certain circumstances.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning the Access Link paratransit service and
2 supplementing P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-1 et seq.).

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
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8 cause to be operated, its Access Link service in an area of the State
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16 section 2 of P.L.2016, c.25 (C.27:25-5c); and

17 "State of emergency" means a natural or man-made disaster or
18 emergency for which a state of emergency has been declared by the
19 Governor.

20

21 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

22

23

24

STATEMENT

25

26 This bill requires the New Jersey Transit Corporation to operate
27 its Access Link paratransit service in an area of the State under a
28 state of emergency if the New Jersey Transit General Manager of
29 ADA Services determines, in consultation with the Director of the
30 State Office of Emergency Management, that the service in that
31 area may be safely provided without undue risk of harm to drivers
32 and persons using the service.

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION AND INDEPENDENT
AUTHORITIES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 362

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 8, 2020

The Assembly Transportation and Independent Authorities Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 362.

As reported, this bill requires the New Jersey Transit Corporation to operate its Access Link paratransit service in an area of the State under a state of emergency if the New Jersey Transit General Manager of ADA Services determines, in consultation with the Director of the State Office of Emergency Management, that the service in that area may be safely provided without undue risk of harm to drivers and persons using the service.

As reported, Senate Bill No. 362 is identical to Assembly Bill No. 1155, which was also reported by the committee on this date.

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 362

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 27, 2020

The Senate Transportation Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 362.

As reported, this bill requires the New Jersey Transit Corporation to operate its Access Link paratransit service in an area of the State under a state of emergency if the New Jersey Transit General Manager of ADA Services determines, in consultation with the Director of the State Office of Emergency Management, that the service in that area may be safely provided without undue risk of harm to drivers and persons using the service.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2020-2021 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

ASSEMBLY, No. 1155

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman ROY FREIMAN

District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)

Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY

District 7 (Burlington)

Assemblyman P. CHRISTOPHER TULLY

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Swain and Assemblyman Caputo

SYNOPSIS

Requires NJT to operate Access Link paratransit service during state of emergency under certain circumstances.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/16/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning the Access Link paratransit service and
2 supplementing P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-1 et seq.).

3

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

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7 1. a. The New Jersey Transit Corporation shall operate, or
8 cause to be operated, its Access Link service in an area of the State
9 under a state of emergency if the New Jersey Transit General
10 Manager of ADA Services determines, in consultation with the
11 Director of the State Office of Emergency Management, that Access
12 Link service in that area may be safely provided without undue risk
13 of harm to drivers and persons using the service.

14 b. As used in this section:

15 "Access Link" shall have the same meaning as provided in
16 section 2 of P.L.2016, c.25 (C.27:25-5c); and

17 "State of emergency" means a natural or man-made disaster or
18 emergency for which a state of emergency has been declared by the
19 Governor.

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21 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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26 This bill requires the New Jersey Transit Corporation to operate
27 its Access Link paratransit service in an area of the State under a
28 state of emergency if the New Jersey Transit General Manager of
29 ADA Services determines, in consultation with the Director of the
30 State Office of Emergency Management, that the service in that
31 area may be safely provided without undue risk of harm to drivers
32 and persons using the service.

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION AND INDEPENDENT
AUTHORITIES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1155

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 8, 2020

The Assembly Transportation and Independent Authorities Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1155.

As reported, this bill requires the New Jersey Transit Corporation to operate its Access Link paratransit service in an area of the State under a state of emergency if the New Jersey Transit General Manager of ADA Services determines, in consultation with the Director of the State Office of Emergency Management, that the service in that area may be safely provided without undue risk of harm to drivers and persons using the service.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2020-2021 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

As reported, Assembly Bill No. 1155 is identical to Senate Bill No. 362, which was also reported by the committee on this date.

Governor Murphy Signs Legislation Strengthening NJ TRANSIT's Access Link Paratransit Services

08/12/2020

TRENTON – Governor Phil Murphy today signed legislation (S362 and A2456) to further strengthen NJ TRANSIT's paratransit services for individuals with disabilities.

"We know that Access Link serves as a critical transportation resource for New Jerseyans with disabilities, who deserve reliable, efficient transit services," **said Governor Murphy**. "These improvements will further strengthen our public transportation network to ensure New Jersey's Access Link riders have a more equitable experience."

S362 would require NJ TRANSIT's Access Link services to operate during state of emergency if it is determined it can be done safely.

A2456 would require a person eligible for Access Link service to be issued an ID card for reduced fares at the same time that NJ TRANSIT determines Access Link service eligibility. Currently, customers who have been certified as needing to use Access Link paratransit service must apply separately if they want to use regular NJ TRANSIT services at the discounted rate for those with disabilities. Under the bill, if an individual is determined to be eligible for Access Link prior to the effective date, they would be issued an ID card within 60 days after the bill's effective date or immediately upon the eligible person's request.

Primary Sponsors of S362 include Senator Joe Cryan, and Assemblymembers Roy Freiman, Carol Murphy, and Christopher Tully.

"People with disabilities rely on Access Link for their basic transportation needs," **said Senator Joe Cryan**. "During emergencies, their reliance on this service is even more important. Access Link has proven to be a real success in serving a vital service for those who need it most. It will now be maintained in emergency conditions so those with disabilities are not left to fend for themselves."

In a joint statement, Assemblymembers Freiman, Murphy, and Tully said:

"Many rely on Access Link to be able to travel to work, day programs and to medical appointments or the hospital – even under a state of emergency. With this new law, all riders will be able to access transit services during a state of emergency, including those with disabilities."

Primary Sponsors of A2456 include Assemblymembers Daniel Benson, Carol Murphy, Valerie Vainieri Huttle, and Senator Nicholas Scutari.

In a joint statement, Assemblymembers Benson, Murphy, and Vainieri Huttle said:

Access Link serves our most vulnerable, including seniors and people with disabilities who would otherwise have difficulty using public transportation. Access Link riders usually are also eligible for NJ TRANSIT's reduced fare program and may not realize it. There's currently no coordination between these two programs, so riders often miss out. By linking the programs together so that recipients receive their ID card when they enroll in Access Link, we can ensure more people will take advantage of this important program."

"Many individuals who utilize Access Link's services are living on fixed incomes," **said Senator Nicholas Scutari**. "This piece of legislation allows riders to travel on bus and rail at a greatly discounted rate, greatly benefitting riders with disabilities who rely on public transportation as their main source of mobility."