

R.S. 27:12D-1

June 17, 1969

LEGISLATIVE NOTES ON R.S. 27:12D-1
(Bridges over Delaware at Burlington and Phillipsburg)

COPY NO. 2

- L. 1968, Chapter 118 - S696
 - April 22 - Introduced by Forsythe.
 - May 13 - Passed in Senate.
 - June 20 - Passed in Assembly.
 - June 25 - Approved, Chapter 118
 - Not amended during passage.
 - No statement on the bill.

No hearings or reports were located.

JH.PC

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APR 25 68
SENATE, No. 696

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED APRIL 22, 1968

By Senator FORSYTHE

(Without Reference)

AN ACT concerning highways and bridges over the Delaware river, the responsibilities of the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission and the New Jersey Department of Transportation with regard to the construction of additional river crossings and supplementing Titles 27 and 32 of the Revised Statutes.

1 WHEREAS, There is a demonstrated need for additional crossings
2 of the Delaware river within the jurisdiction of the Delaware
3 River Joint Toll Bridge Commission; and

4 WHEREAS, The United States Bureau of Public Roads has previ-
5 ously indicated a willingness to have constructed as part of the
6 Interstate System a new river crossing as part of Interstate
7 Route 78 near Easton-Phillipsburg; and

8 WHEREAS, The Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission has
9 also publicly indicated the need for new crossings at Burlington-
10 Bristol, New Hope-Lambertville and Trenton-Morrisville; and

11 WHEREAS, The construction of the Burlington-Bristol crossing with
12 Federal and State funds would substantially reduce the future
13 financial requirements of the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge
14 Commission; and

15 WHEREAS, The New Jersey Department of Transportation has in-
16 dicated that, under certain conditions, the Federal Government
17 is prepared to add the Burlington-Bristol Bridge and the con-
18 nector roads from Interstate Route 295 in New Jersey to Inter-
19 state Route 95 in Pennsylvania to the present Interstate System;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, The Federal Government is desirous of operating the
22 Interstate System free from toll facilities to the greatest extent
23 possible; and

24 WHEREAS, The Federal Government is seeking the construction of
 25 the Interstate Route 78 crossing as a nontoll facility within 10
 26 miles of the existing Easton-Phillipsburg toll bridge and an
 27 agreement to release from toll operation at a future specific date
 28 the toll bridge at Delaware Water Gap which is a part of Inter-
 29 state Route 80; and

30 WHEREAS, It is in the public interest to resolve the present diffi-
 31 culties preventing prompt construction of all of these bridges
 32 and wherever possible to operate these bridges as nontoll facili-
 33 ties; now therefore,

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

1 1. The Legislature hereby finds and determines the construction
 2 of a new river crossing at Burlington-Bristol and an additional
 3 river crossing at Easton-Phillipsburg as part of the National Sys-
 4 tem of Interstate and Defense Highways is in the public interest
 5 and further finds and determines that it is in the public interest
 6 to have released from toll operation the Delaware river crossing
 7 that is part of Interstate Route 80 at a date consistent with the
 8 intention of the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission to
 9 construct additional toll crossings in the immediate future in the
 10 vicinity of New Hope-Lambertville and Trenton-Morrisville, and
 11 further determines that the Department of Transportation and the
 12 New Jersey members of the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge
 13 Commission should co-operate in an effort to accomplish the con-
 14 struction of bridges, insofar as possible, in the manner herein set
 15 forth.

1 2. Pursuant to the authority set forth in chapter 153, P. L. 1956,
 2 the Commissioner of Transportation is further authorized in co-
 3 operation with the Department of Highways in the Commonwealth
 4 of Pennsylvania and the United States Department of Transporta-
 5 tion to construct as part of the National System of Interstate and
 6 Defense Highways, a bridge across the Delaware river in the vi-
 7 cinity of Burlington, New Jersey and Bristol, Pennsylvania and
 8 a bridge across the Delaware river in the vicinity of Phillipsburg,
 9 New Jersey and Easton, Pennsylvania.

1 3. In carrying out the provisions of this act, the Department of
 2 Transportation may enter into an agreement with the Delaware
 3 River Joint Toll Bridge Commission for the purposes of construct-
 4 ing bridges and approaches over the Delaware river in the vicinity
 5 of Burlington-Bristol and Easton-Phillipsburg. The cost of such

6 construction shall be the responsibility of the States and the Fed-
7 eral Government and not the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge
8 Commission. The nonfederal share of the cost shall be divided
9 equally between the States. Upon completion, the bridges shall be
10 owned by the State of New Jersey and the Commonwealth of Penn-
11 sylvania equally and such bridges shall be maintained and operated
12 by the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission as toll-free
13 facilities in accordance with the laws applicable to other State-
14 owned bridges within the jurisdiction of the Delaware River Joint
15 Toll Bridge Commission.

1 4. The Department of Transportation and the Delaware River
2 Joint Toll Bridge Commission are hereby authorized to enter into
3 such agreements with the Department of Highways of the Common-
4 wealth of Pennsylvania and with the Department of Transporta-
5 tion of the United States as may be necessary or desirable in order
6 to comply with all applicable Federal laws, requirements and regu-
7 lations thereunder governing the construction and financing of fa-
8 cilities to be incorporated in the National System of Interstate and
9 Defense Highways.

1 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of this act, the construction
2 and operation of the toll-free bridges authorized herein shall be
3 carried out in a manner which will not violate any existing covenant
4 of the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission made for the
5 protection of holders of its outstanding Bridge Revenue Bonds
6 and such bridges shall not be opened to traffic until all such out-
7 standing Bridge Revenue Bonds shall have been retired by pay-
8 ment, purchase or redemption, or provision for such retirement
9 shall have been duly made, or unless the holders of such Bridge
10 Revenue Bonds for which provision for retirement shall not have
11 been made shall have consented in writing to such bridge opening.

1 6. This act shall take effect immediately.