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LAW/RWH

SENATE, No. 2392

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 213th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 8, 2008

Sponsored by:

Senator BILL BARONI

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Senator JIM WHELAN

District 2 (Atlantic)

Assemblywoman SANDRA LOVE

District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

Assemblyman JOHN J. BURZICHELLI

District 3 (Salem, Cumberland and Gloucester)

Assemblywoman LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

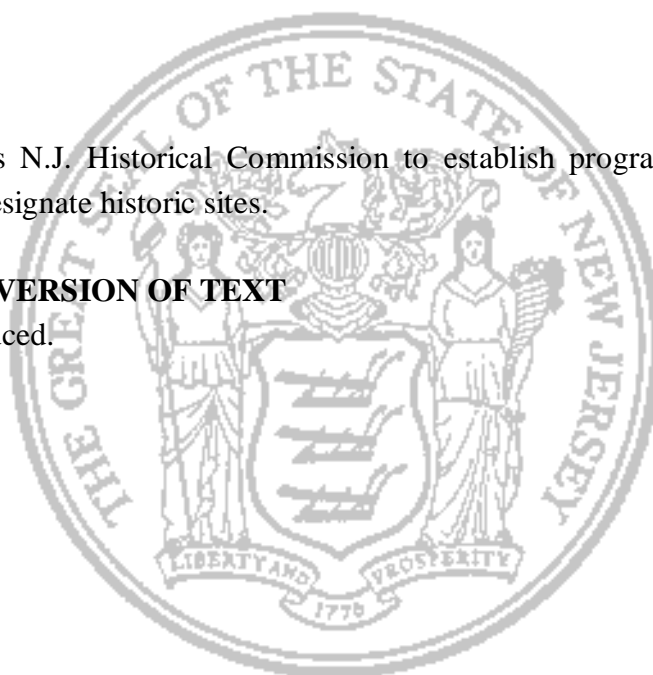
**Senators Beck, Allen, Gordon, Assemblymen Albano, Milam and
Assemblywoman Riley**

SYNOPSIS

Authorizes N.J. Historical Commission to establish program for roadside markers to designate historic sites.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/12/2010)

1 AN ACT authorizing the New Jersey Historical Commission to
2 establish a program to encourage local government units,
3 nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to
4 recognize sites of historical and cultural significance with
5 standardized roadside markers, and supplementing Title 18A of
6 the New Jersey Statutes.

7

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

10

11 1. The Legislature finds and declares that New Jersey, one of
12 the original 13 colonies and crossroads of the American revolution,
13 has a distinguished heritage, as evidenced by the abundance of sites
14 witnessing significant historical and cultural events in the nation's
15 history and important scientific and technological discoveries, as
16 well as being home to many famous men and women who have
17 made lasting contributions to the State and the world; and that it is
18 the responsibility of the State of New Jersey to encourage local
19 government units and civic organizations to recognize these sites by
20 the placement of historically accurate roadside markers.

21 The Legislature further finds and declares that New Jersey has
22 lagged other states in developing a standardized program to
23 recognize sites of historical and cultural significance; that many of
24 the existing markers State-wide are old and damaged; that no
25 system is currently in place to inventory existing markers; and that
26 there are many sites in the State, in addition to those listed on the
27 New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places, which are of
28 significant historical and cultural acclaim, and worthy of
29 recognition through the placement of roadside markers.

30 The Legislature therefore determines that it is in the public
31 interest to authorize the New Jersey Historical Commission to plan
32 and carry out a program to encourage local government units,
33 nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to
34 provide for the placement of roadside markers at locations of
35 historical and cultural significance in New Jersey; and that the
36 creation of such a program would not only serve as a tribute to the
37 people, places and events that have helped shape the State, the
38 nation, and the world, but would serve to enhance community pride
39 and encourage tourism throughout the State.

40

41 2. The New Jersey Historical Commission, in consultation with
42 the New Jersey Heritage Tourism Task Force established pursuant
43 to section 1 of P.L.2006, c.60, is authorized to establish a program
44 to encourage local government units, nonprofit charitable
45 organizations, and civic organizations to identify and propose sites
46 of historical and cultural significance in the State, to be recognized
47 by the placement of roadside markers. The markers shall feature a
48 standardized design bearing the State seal, indicating that the site

1 has been approved by the commission and that the marker meets
2 standards for historical accuracy. In developing the program
3 required pursuant to this section, the commission shall consult with
4 the Department of Transportation to establish standards for the
5 design, placement, and location of the roadside markers.

6
7 3. a. The New Jersey Historical Commission shall develop an
8 application process to be followed by local government units,
9 nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to
10 identify and propose sites for inclusion in the program. An
11 application shall include but is not limited to the location of the
12 proposed site and evidence to support its historical or cultural
13 significance, and the proposed text for the roadside marker. If an
14 application submitted by a local government unit, nonprofit
15 charitable organization, or civic organization is approved by the
16 commission and by the appropriate entity having jurisdiction over
17 the roadway along which the marker is to be placed, the requesting
18 local government unit, nonprofit charitable organization, or civic
19 organization, as appropriate, may purchase, through an approved
20 vendor, and erect a marker bearing the State seal, designating that
21 the site has been approved by the commission and that the marker
22 meets standards for historical accuracy.

23 b. The commission shall compile and maintain a listing of
24 approved vendors and shall negotiate, to the extent practicable and
25 feasible, a volume discounted rate for the purchase of markers by
26 local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, or civic
27 organizations.

28 c. The commission shall compile and maintain a registry of
29 approved sites and an inventory of markers erected pursuant to this
30 act.

31 d. The commission shall conduct a notification program
32 designed to inform local government units, nonprofit charitable
33 organizations, and civic organizations of the existence of the
34 program, through both printed materials and an Internet site.

35
36 4. a. The New Jersey Historical Commission, within the limits
37 of funds appropriated therefor or otherwise made available to it,
38 may (1) commence the roadside marker program as soon as may be
39 practicable, and (2) take any administrative or personnel action as
40 may be necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

41 b. The commission shall be authorized to raise funds, through
42 direct solicitation or other fundraising events, alone or with other
43 groups, and may accept gifts, grants and bequests from individuals,
44 corporations, foundations, governmental agencies, public and
45 private organizations, and institutions, to defray the commission's
46 administrative expenses and to carry out its purposes as set forth in
47 this act. The funds, gifts, grants, or bequests received pursuant to
48 this subsection shall be deposited into an account in the Department

1 of the Treasury and allocated and annually appropriated to the
2 Department of State to defray the commission's administrative
3 expenses in connection with implementing this act and to
4 accomplish the goals and purposes set forth in this act.

5

6 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

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8

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STATEMENT

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11 This bill would authorize the New Jersey Historical Commission,
12 in consultation with the New Jersey Heritage Tourism Task Force
13 established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2006, c.60, to establish a
14 program to encourage local government units, nonprofit charitable
15 organizations, and civic organizations to recognize sites of
16 historical and cultural significance in the State, by the placement of
17 historically accurate and standardized roadside markers.

18 The bill would require the New Jersey Historical Commission to
19 develop an application process for local government units, nonprofit
20 charitable organizations, and civic organizations to follow to
21 identify and propose sites for inclusion in the program. The
22 markers would be required to feature a standardized design bearing
23 the State seal, indicating that the site has been approved by the
24 commission and that the marker meets standards for historical
25 accuracy.

26 In developing the program, the bill would require the
27 commission to consult with the Department of Transportation to
28 establish standards for the design, placement, and location of the
29 roadside markers. The bill also would require an application
30 submitted by a local government unit, nonprofit charitable
31 organization, or civic organization to be approved by both the New
32 Jersey Historical Commission and the appropriate entity having
33 jurisdiction over the roadway along which the marker is to be
34 placed.

35 The bill would also require the commission to compile and
36 maintain a registry of approved sites and an inventory of markers
37 that are erected, and to publicize the program to local government
38 units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations.

39 Lastly, this bill would provide for necessary administrative or
40 personnel action by the New Jersey Historical Commission to effect
41 the goals and purposes of the bill, within the funds available. The
42 bill also would authorize the commission to raise funds, through
43 direct solicitation or other fundraising events, alone or with other
44 groups, and the commission could accept gifts, grants and bequests
45 from individuals, corporations, foundations, governmental agencies,
46 public and private organizations, and institutions. The funds, gifts,
47 grants, or bequests received would be deposited into an account in
48 the Department of the Treasury and allocated and annually

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- 1 appropriated to the Department of State to defray the commission's
- 2 administrative expenses in connection with implementing this bill
- 3 and to accomplish the goals and purposes set forth under this bill.

SENATE WAGERING, TOURISM & HISTORIC
PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2392

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 11, 2008

The Senate Wagering, Tourism & Historic Preservation Committee reports favorably Senate No. 2392.

This bill would authorize the New Jersey Historical Commission, in consultation with the New Jersey Heritage Tourism Task Force established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2006, c.60, to establish a program to encourage local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to recognize sites of historical and cultural significance in the State, by the placement of historically accurate and standardized roadside markers.

The bill would require the New Jersey Historical Commission to develop an application process for local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to follow to identify and propose sites for inclusion in the program. The markers would be required to feature a standardized design bearing the State seal, indicating that the site has been approved by the commission and that the marker meets standards for historical accuracy.

In developing the program, the bill would require the commission to consult with the Department of Transportation to establish standards for the design, placement, and location of the roadside markers. The bill also would require an application submitted by a local government unit, nonprofit charitable organization, or civic organization to be approved by both the New Jersey Historical Commission and the appropriate entity having jurisdiction over the roadway along which the marker is to be placed.

The bill would also require the commission to compile and maintain a registry of approved sites and an inventory of markers that are erected, and to publicize the program to local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations.

Lastly, this bill would provide for necessary administrative or personnel action by the New Jersey Historical Commission to effect the goals and purposes of the bill, within the funds available. The bill also would authorize the commission to raise funds, through direct solicitation or other fundraising events, alone or with other groups, and the commission could accept gifts, grants and bequests from individuals, corporations, foundations, governmental agencies, public

and private organizations, and institutions. The funds, gifts, grants, or bequests received would be deposited into an account in the Department of the Treasury and allocated and annually appropriated to the Department of State to defray the commission's administrative expenses in connection with implementing this bill and to accomplish the goals and purposes set forth under this bill.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2392

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 9, 2009

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2392.

The bill would authorize the New Jersey Historical Commission, in consultation with the New Jersey Heritage Tourism Task Force established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2006, c.60, to establish a program to encourage local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to recognize sites of historical and cultural significance in the State, by the placement of historically accurate and standardized roadside markers.

The bill would require the New Jersey Historical Commission to develop an application process for local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to follow to identify and propose sites for inclusion in the program. The markers would be required to feature a standardized design bearing the State seal, indicating that the site has been approved by the commission and that the marker meets standards for historical accuracy.

In developing the program, the bill would require the commission to consult with the Department of Transportation to establish standards for the design, placement, and location of the roadside markers. The bill also would require an application submitted by a local government unit, nonprofit charitable organization, or civic organization to be approved by both the New Jersey Historical Commission and the appropriate entity having jurisdiction over the roadway along which the marker is to be placed.

The bill would also require the commission to compile and maintain a registry of approved sites and an inventory of markers that are erected, and to publicize the program to local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations.

Lastly, this bill would provide for necessary administrative or personnel action by the New Jersey Historical Commission to effect the goals and purposes of the bill, within the funds available. The bill also would authorize the commission to raise funds, through direct solicitation or other fundraising events, alone or with other groups, and the commission could accept gifts, grants and bequests from individuals, corporations, foundations, governmental agencies, public and private organizations, and institutions. The funds, gifts, grants, or bequests received would be deposited into an account in the

Department of the Treasury and allocated and annually appropriated to the Department of State to defray the commission's administrative expenses in connection with implementing this bill and to accomplish the goals and purposes set forth under this bill.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill will have no fiscal impact on State funds because program administration expenses are intended to be supported through non-State funding sources rather than by State appropriations. In addition, the bill "authorizes" rather than requires the New Jersey Historical Commission to establish the program, which implies that its implementation would be entirely dependent on the commission's ability to raise the necessary funding. Local governments would be affected by the bill only if they participate in this voluntary program and contribute the necessary funds to acquire and maintain roadside markers.

ASSEMBLY TOURISM AND GAMING COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2392

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 4, 2009

The Assembly Tourism and Gaming Committee reports favorably Senate, No. 2392.

The bill would authorize the New Jersey Historical Commission, in consultation with the New Jersey Heritage Tourism Task Force established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2006, c.60, to establish a program to encourage local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to recognize sites of historical and cultural significance in the State, by the placement of historically accurate and standardized roadside markers.

The bill would require the New Jersey Historical Commission to develop an application process for local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to follow to identify and propose sites for inclusion in the program. The markers would be required to feature a standardized design bearing the State seal, indicating that the site has been approved by the commission and that the marker meets standards for historical accuracy.

In developing the program, the bill would require the commission to consult with the Department of Transportation to establish standards for the design, placement, and location of the roadside markers. The bill also would require an application submitted by a local government unit, nonprofit charitable organization, or civic organization to be approved by both the New Jersey Historical Commission and the appropriate entity having jurisdiction over the roadway along which the marker is to be placed.

The bill would also require the commission to compile and maintain a registry of approved sites and an inventory of markers that are erected, and to publicize the program to local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations.

Lastly, this bill would provide for necessary administrative or personnel action by the New Jersey Historical Commission to effect the goals and purposes of the bill, within the funds available. The bill also would authorize the commission to raise funds, through direct solicitation or other fundraising events, alone or with other groups, and the commission could accept gifts, grants and bequests from individuals, corporations, foundations, governmental agencies, public

and private organizations, and institutions. The funds, gifts, grants, or bequests received would be deposited into an account in the Department of the Treasury and allocated and annually appropriated to the Department of State to defray the commission's administrative expenses in connection with implementing this bill and to accomplish the goals and purposes set forth under this bill.

This bill is identical to Assembly, No. 3665.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE
SENATE, No. 2392
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
213th LEGISLATURE

DATED: MARCH 9, 2009

SUMMARY

Synopsis: Authorizes N.J. Historical Commission to establish program for roadside markers to designate historic sites.

Type of Impact: No impact on the General Fund.

Agencies Affected: New Jersey Historical Commission

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
State Cost	No Impact—See comments below		

- The bill authorizes the New Jersey Historical Commission to establish a program to encourage local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to recognize sites of historical and cultural significance in the State through the purchase and placement of historically accurate and standardized roadside markers.
- The commission is directed to consult with the New Jersey Heritage Tourism Task Force and the Department of Transportation in establishing and operating this program.
- The bill authorizes the commission to raise funds for program administration costs through direct solicitation, fundraising events, gifts, grants or other non-State funding sources. Program implementation would therefore be entirely dependent on the commission’s ability to raise the necessary funding for this purpose.
- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) estimates that the bill will have no fiscal impact on State funds because program administration costs are intended to be supported by non-State funding sources. Roadside markers would be purchased voluntarily by program applicants.

BILL DESCRIPTION

Senate Bill No. 2392 of 2008 authorizes the New Jersey Historical Commission, in consultation with the New Jersey Heritage Tourism Task Force, to establish a program to

encourage local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to recognize sites of historical and cultural significance in the State. This recognition would be manifested through the placement of historically accurate and standardized roadside markers.

The bill directs the commission to develop an application process in which applicants would identify and propose sites for inclusion in the program. The roadside markers would feature a standardized design bearing the State seal, indicating that the site has been approved by the commission and that the marker meets standards for historical accuracy.

In developing the program, the commission would consult with the Department of Transportation to establish standards for the design, placement, and location of the roadside markers. The bill also requires the commission to maintain a registry of approved sites and an inventory of markers that are erected, and to publicize the program to local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations.

The bill does not include a State appropriation to support program administration costs. Instead, it authorizes the commission to raise funds for this purpose through direct solicitation, fundraising events, gifts, grants or other non-state funding sources.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The OLS estimates that the bill will have no fiscal impact on State funds because program administration expenses are intended to be supported through non-State funding sources rather than by State appropriations. In addition, the bill “authorizes” rather than requires the commission to establish the program, which implies that its implementation would be entirely dependent on the commission’s ability to raise the necessary funding. The OLS also estimates that local governments would be affected by the bill only if they participate in this voluntary program and contribute the necessary funds to acquire and maintain roadside markers.

Last, the OLS estimates that the commission may have to hire two employees (one professional, one clerical) to manage the program. Hence, salary costs plus non-salary expenses could approach \$100,000 annually. Notwithstanding the need for non-State funds to meet these expenses, program application fees could also be charged for this purpose.

Section: Environment, Agriculture, Energy and Natural Resources

*Analyst: Richard M. Handelman
Senior Fiscal Analyst*

*Approved: David J. Rosen
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer*

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

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L. 1980, c.67 (C. 52:13B-1 et seq.).

ASSEMBLY, No. 3665

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 213th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 15, 2009

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman SANDRA LOVE

District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

Assemblyman JOHN J. BURZICHELLI

District 3 (Salem, Cumberland and Gloucester)

Assemblywoman LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Albano, Milam and Assemblywoman Riley

SYNOPSIS

Authorizes N.J. Historical Commission to establish program for roadside markers to designate historic sites.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/12/2010)

1 AN ACT authorizing the New Jersey Historical Commission to
2 establish a program to encourage local government units,
3 nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to
4 recognize sites of historical and cultural significance with
5 standardized roadside markers, and supplementing Title 18A of
6 the New Jersey Statutes.

7

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

10

11 1. The Legislature finds and declares that New Jersey, one of
12 the original 13 colonies and crossroads of the American revolution,
13 has a distinguished heritage, as evidenced by the abundance of sites
14 witnessing significant historical and cultural events in the nation's
15 history and important scientific and technological discoveries, as
16 well as being home to many famous men and women who have
17 made lasting contributions to the State and the world; and that it is
18 the responsibility of the State of New Jersey to encourage local
19 government units and civic organizations to recognize these sites by
20 the placement of historically accurate roadside markers.

21 The Legislature further finds and declares that New Jersey has
22 lagged other states in developing a standardized program to
23 recognize sites of historical and cultural significance; that many of
24 the existing markers State-wide are old and damaged; that no
25 system is currently in place to inventory existing markers; and that
26 there are many sites in the State, in addition to those listed on the
27 New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places, which are of
28 significant historical and cultural acclaim, and worthy of
29 recognition through the placement of roadside markers.

30 The Legislature therefore determines that it is in the public
31 interest to authorize the New Jersey Historical Commission to plan
32 and carry out a program to encourage local government units,
33 nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to
34 provide for the placement of roadside markers at locations of
35 historical and cultural significance in New Jersey; and that the
36 creation of such a program would not only serve as a tribute to the
37 people, places and events that have helped shape the State, the
38 nation, and the world, but would serve to enhance community pride
39 and encourage tourism throughout the State.

40

41 2. The New Jersey Historical Commission, in consultation with
42 the New Jersey Heritage Tourism Task Force established pursuant
43 to section 1 of P.L.2006, c.60, is authorized to establish a program
44 to encourage local government units, nonprofit charitable
45 organizations, and civic organizations to identify and propose sites
46 of historical and cultural significance in the State, to be recognized
47 by the placement of roadside markers. The markers shall feature a
48 standardized design bearing the State seal, indicating that the site

1 has been approved by the commission and that the marker meets
2 standards for historical accuracy. In developing the program
3 required pursuant to this section, the commission shall consult with
4 the Department of Transportation to establish standards for the
5 design, placement, and location of the roadside markers.
6

7 3. a. The New Jersey Historical Commission shall develop an
8 application process to be followed by local government units,
9 nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to
10 identify and propose sites for inclusion in the program. An
11 application shall include but is not limited to the location of the
12 proposed site and evidence to support its historical or cultural
13 significance, and the proposed text for the roadside marker. If an
14 application submitted by a local government unit, nonprofit
15 charitable organization, or civic organization is approved by the
16 commission and by the appropriate entity having jurisdiction over
17 the roadway along which the marker is to be placed, the requesting
18 local government unit, nonprofit charitable organization, or civic
19 organization, as appropriate, may purchase, through an approved
20 vendor, and erect a marker bearing the State seal, designating that
21 the site has been approved by the commission and that the marker
22 meets standards for historical accuracy.

23 b. The commission shall compile and maintain a listing of
24 approved vendors and shall negotiate, to the extent practicable and
25 feasible, a volume discounted rate for the purchase of markers by
26 local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, or civic
27 organizations.

28 c. The commission shall compile and maintain a registry of
29 approved sites and an inventory of markers erected pursuant to this
30 act.

31 d. The commission shall conduct a notification program
32 designed to inform local government units, nonprofit charitable
33 organizations, and civic organizations of the existence of the
34 program, through both printed materials and an Internet site.
35

36 4. a. The New Jersey Historical Commission, within the limits
37 of funds appropriated therefor or otherwise made available to it,
38 may (1) commence the roadside marker program as soon as may be
39 practicable, and (2) take any administrative or personnel action as
40 may be necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

41 b. The commission shall be authorized to raise funds, through
42 direct solicitation or other fundraising events, alone or with other
43 groups, and may accept gifts, grants and bequests from individuals,
44 corporations, foundations, governmental agencies, public and
45 private organizations, and institutions, to defray the commission's
46 administrative expenses and to carry out its purposes as set forth in
47 this act. The funds, gifts, grants, or bequests received pursuant to
48 this subsection shall be deposited into an account in the Department

1 of the Treasury and allocated and annually appropriated to the
2 Department of State to defray the commission's administrative
3 expenses in connection with implementing this act and to
4 accomplish the goals and purposes set forth in this act.

5

6 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

7

8

9

STATEMENT

10

11 This bill would authorize the New Jersey Historical Commission,
12 in consultation with the New Jersey Heritage Tourism Task Force
13 established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2006, c.60, to establish a
14 program to encourage local government units, nonprofit charitable
15 organizations, and civic organizations to recognize sites of
16 historical and cultural significance in the State, by the placement of
17 historically accurate and standardized roadside markers.

18 The bill would require the New Jersey Historical Commission to
19 develop an application process for local government units, nonprofit
20 charitable organizations, and civic organizations to follow to
21 identify and propose sites for inclusion in the program. The
22 markers would be required to feature a standardized design bearing
23 the State seal, indicating that the site has been approved by the
24 commission and that the marker meets standards for historical
25 accuracy.

26 In developing the program, the bill would require the
27 commission to consult with the Department of Transportation to
28 establish standards for the design, placement, and location of the
29 roadside markers. The bill also would require an application
30 submitted by a local government unit, nonprofit charitable
31 organization, or civic organization to be approved by both the New
32 Jersey Historical Commission and the appropriate entity having
33 jurisdiction over the roadway along which the marker is to be
34 placed.

35 The bill would also require the commission to compile and
36 maintain a registry of approved sites and an inventory of markers
37 that are erected, and to publicize the program to local government
38 units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations.

39 Lastly, this bill would provide for necessary administrative or
40 personnel action by the New Jersey Historical Commission to effect
41 the goals and purposes of the bill, within the funds available. The
42 bill also would authorize the commission to raise funds, through
43 direct solicitation or other fundraising events, alone or with other
44 groups, and the commission could accept gifts, grants and bequests
45 from individuals, corporations, foundations, governmental agencies,
46 public and private organizations, and institutions. The funds, gifts,
47 grants, or bequests received would be deposited into an account in
48 the Department of the Treasury and allocated and annually

A3665 LOVE, BURZICHELLI

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- 1 appropriated to the Department of State to defray the commission's
- 2 administrative expenses in connection with implementing this bill
- 3 and to accomplish the goals and purposes set forth under this bill.

ASSEMBLY TOURISM AND GAMING COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3665

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 4, 2009

The Assembly Tourism and Gaming Committee reports favorably on Assembly, No. 3665.

This bill would authorize the New Jersey Historical Commission, in consultation with the New Jersey Heritage Tourism Task Force established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2006, c.60, to establish a program to encourage local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to recognize sites of historical and cultural significance in the State, by the placement of historically accurate and standardized roadside markers.

The bill would require the New Jersey Historical Commission to develop an application process for local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to follow to identify and propose sites for inclusion in the program. The markers would be required to feature a standardized design bearing the State seal, indicating that the site has been approved by the commission and that the marker meets standards for historical accuracy.

In developing the program, the bill would require the commission to consult with the Department of Transportation to establish standards for the design, placement, and location of the roadside markers. The bill also would require an application submitted by a local government unit, nonprofit charitable organization, or civic organization to be approved by both the New Jersey Historical Commission and the appropriate entity having jurisdiction over the roadway along which the marker is to be placed.

The bill would also require the commission to compile and maintain a registry of approved sites and an inventory of markers that are erected, and to publicize the program to local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations.

Lastly, this bill would provide for necessary administrative or personnel action by the New Jersey Historical Commission to effect the goals and purposes of the bill, within the funds available. The bill also would authorize the commission to raise funds, through direct solicitation or other fundraising events, alone or with other groups, and the commission could accept gifts, grants and bequests from individuals, corporations, foundations, governmental agencies, public

and private organizations, and institutions. The funds, gifts, grants, or bequests received would be deposited into an account in the Department of the Treasury and allocated and annually appropriated to the Department of State to defray the commission's administrative expenses in connection with implementing this bill and to accomplish the goals and purposes set forth under this bill.

This bill is identical to Senate, No. 2392.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE
ASSEMBLY, No. 3665
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
213th LEGISLATURE

DATED: APRIL 16, 2009

SUMMARY

Synopsis: Authorizes N.J. Historical Commission to establish program for roadside markers to designate historic sites.

Type of Impact: No impact on the General Fund.

Agencies Affected: New Jersey Historical Commission

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
State Cost	No Impact—See comments below		

- The bill authorizes the New Jersey Historical Commission to establish a program to encourage local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to recognize sites of historical and cultural significance in the State through the purchase and placement of historically accurate and standardized roadside markers.
- The commission is directed to consult with the New Jersey Heritage Tourism Task Force and the Department of Transportation in establishing and operating this program.
- The bill authorizes the commission to raise funds for program administration costs through direct solicitation, fundraising events, gifts, grants or other non-State funding sources. Program implementation would therefore be entirely dependent on the commission’s ability to raise the necessary funding for this purpose.
- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) estimates that the bill will have no fiscal impact on State funds because program administration costs are intended to be supported by non-State funding sources. Roadside markers would be purchased voluntarily by program applicants.

BILL DESCRIPTION

Assembly Bill No. 3665 of 2009 authorizes the New Jersey Historical Commission, in consultation with the New Jersey Heritage Tourism Task Force, to establish a program to encourage local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations to

recognize sites of historical and cultural significance in the State. This recognition would be manifested through the placement of historically accurate and standardized roadside markers.

The bill directs the commission to develop an application process in which applicants would identify and propose sites for inclusion in the program. The roadside markers would feature a standardized design bearing the State seal, indicating that the site has been approved by the commission and that the marker meets standards for historical accuracy.

In developing the program, the commission would consult with the Department of Transportation to establish standards for the design, placement, and location of the roadside markers. The bill also requires the commission to maintain a registry of approved sites and an inventory of markers that are erected, and to publicize the program to local government units, nonprofit charitable organizations, and civic organizations.

The bill does not include a State appropriation to support program administration costs. Instead, it authorizes the commission to raise funds for this purpose through direct solicitation, fundraising events, gifts, grants or other non-state funding sources.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The OLS estimates that the bill will have no fiscal impact on State funds because program administration expenses are intended to be supported through non-State funding sources rather than by State appropriations. In addition, the bill “authorizes” rather than requires the commission to establish the program, which implies that its implementation would be entirely dependent on the commission’s ability to raise the necessary funding. The OLS also estimates that local governments would be affected by the bill only if they participate in this voluntary program and contribute the necessary funds to acquire and maintain roadside markers.

Last, the OLS estimates that the commission may have to hire two employees (one professional, one clerical) to manage the program. Hence, salary costs plus non-salary expenses could approach \$100,000 annually. Notwithstanding the need for non-State funds to meet these expenses, program application fees could also be charged for this purpose.

Section: Environment, Agriculture, Energy and Natural Resources

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

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L. 1980, c.67 (C. 52:13B-1 et seq.).