

(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:

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REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: Yes

Mike Davis, Asbury Park Press | USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY, 'NEW LAWS FOR SAFETY - STATE TAKES ACTION AFTER SERIES THAT EXPLORED 'ROGUE OPERATORS' OF SCHOOL BUS INDUSTRY', Record, The (online), 10 Nov 2021 A1

RWH/JA

P.L. 2021, CHAPTER 306, *approved November 8, 2021*
 Assembly, No. 5817

1 AN ACT concerning unauthorized school bus drivers and amending
 2 N.J.S.18A:39-20.

3
 4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
 5 of New Jersey:

6
 7 1. N.J.S.18A:39-20 is amended to read as follows:

8 18A:39-20. No board of education or contractor shall
 9 **[knowingly]** approve or **[knowingly]** assign an individual, as a
 10 driver or substitute driver of a school bus, without first complying
 11 with the provisions of this chapter, and any person violating, or
 12 failing to comply with such provisions shall be subject to a fine of:

13 a. not more than \$5,000 for each driver unlawfully approved or
 14 assigned for the first offense;

15 b. not more than \$10,000 for each driver unlawfully approved
 16 or assigned for the second offense; and

17 c. not more than \$15,000 for each driver unlawfully approved
 18 or assigned for a third and each subsequent offense.

19 It shall not be a defense to avoid liability under this section that a
 20 board of education or contractor unknowingly failed to comply with
 21 the provisions of this chapter.

22 (cf: P.L.2003, c.66, s.5)

23
 24 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

25

26

27

STATEMENT

28

29 This bill amends current law to hold a board of education or
 30 school bus contractor responsible if they approve or assign an
 31 individual, as a driver or substitute driver of a school bus, without
 32 first complying with the provisions of law concerning the training,
 33 certification, and criminal history record checks of school bus
 34 drivers. The bill increases the fines associated with such an action
 35 from not more than \$5,000 for each offense to not more than \$5,000
 36 for the first offense, not more than \$10,000 for the second offense,
 37 and not more than \$15,000 for a third and each subsequent offense.
 38 The bill clarifies that it will not be a defense to avoid liability that a
 39 board of education or contractor unknowingly failed to comply with
 40 the provisions of law concerning the training, certification, and
 41 criminal history record checks of school bus drivers.

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.

1

2

3 Revises violation and fines for approving or assigning

4 unauthorized individuals as school bus drivers.

ASSEMBLY, No. 5817

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 1, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman P. CHRISTOPHER TULLY

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblywoman LISA SWAIN

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Senator JOSEPH A. LAGANA

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Senator PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.

District 18 (Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

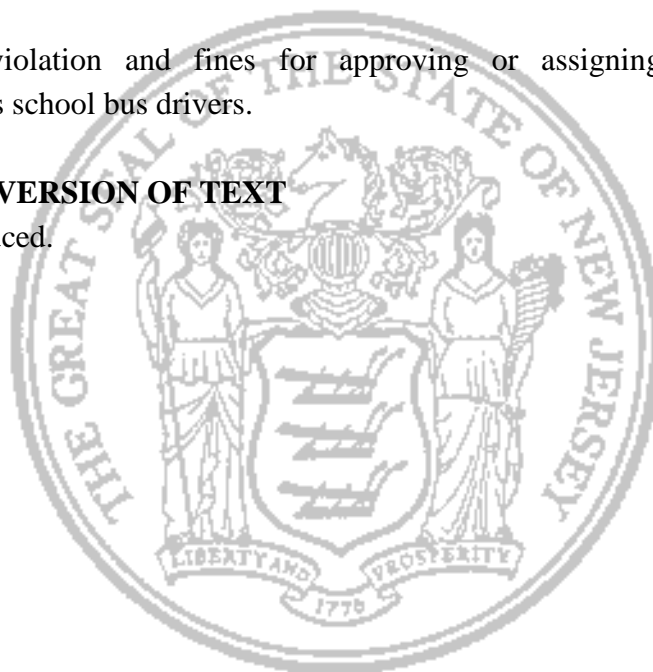
**Assemblyman Houghtaling, Assemblywomen Downey, Lampitt, Senators
Corrado and Greenstein**

SYNOPSIS

Revises violation and fines for approving or assigning unauthorized individuals as school bus drivers.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2021)

A5817 TULLY, SWAIN

2

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ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 5817

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 16, 2021

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 5817.

This bill amends current law to hold a board of education or school bus contractor responsible if they approve or assign an individual, as a driver or substitute driver of a school bus, without first complying with the provisions of law concerning the training, certification, and criminal history record checks of school bus drivers. The bill increases the fines associated with such an action from not more than \$5,000 for each offense to not more than \$5,000 for the first offense, not more than \$10,000 for the second offense, and not more than \$15,000 for a third and each subsequent offense. The bill clarifies that it will not be a defense to avoid liability that a board of education or contractor unknowingly failed to comply with the provisions of law concerning the training, certification, and criminal history record checks of school bus drivers.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill is not certified as requiring a fiscal note.

SENATE, No. 3852

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 1, 2021

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH A. LAGANA

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Senator PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.

District 18 (Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Corrado and Greenstein

SYNOPSIS

Revises violation and fines for approving or assigning unauthorized individuals as school bus drivers.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2021)

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SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3852

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 10, 2021

The Senate Transportation Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 3852.

As reported, this bill amends current law to hold a board of education or school bus contractor responsible if they approve or assign an individual, as a driver or substitute driver of a school bus, without first complying with the provisions of law concerning the training, certification, and criminal history record checks of school bus drivers. The bill increases the fines associated with such an action from not more than \$5,000 for each offense to not more than \$5,000 for the first offense, not more than \$10,000 for the second offense, and not more than \$15,000 for a third and each subsequent offense. The bill clarifies that it will not be a defense to avoid liability that a board of education or contractor unknowingly failed to comply with the provisions of law concerning the training, certification, and criminal history record checks of school bus drivers.

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

11/8/2021

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

S-249/A-1259 (Singleton, Turner/Schaer, DeCroce, Vainieri Huttle) – Requires pharmacy benefits manager providing services within Medicaid program to disclose certain information to DHS

S-324/A-3533 (Diegnan, A.M. Bucco/Benson, Freiman, DeCroce) – Authorizes operators of motor vehicles to display electronic proof of registration; requires MVC to send application for registration renewal to lessee of leased vehicle

SCS for S-399 and 1645/ACS for A-869 and 1380 (Lagana, Weinberg, Stack, Turner, Cunningham/Chiaravalloti, Holley) – Requires residential landlords to install covers on steam radiators upon request of tenant

S-537/A-3110 (Codey/McKeon, Verrelli, Vainieri Huttle) – Establishes certain minimum and maximum temperatures in rooming and boarding houses, dementia care homes, and certain nursing homes and residential health care facilities

S-550/A-1616 (Codey, Pennacchio/Lampitt, Conaway, Vainieri Huttle) – Requires certain student identification cards to contain telephone number for suicide prevention hotline

SCS for S-647/A-4825 (Greenstein, Singleton/McKeon, Karabinchak, Stanley) – Revises cybersecurity, asset management, and related reporting requirements in “Water Quality Accountability Act”

S-828/A-2101 (Lagana, Greenstein/Swain, Tully, Verrelli) – Requires public utilities and local units to provide notice prior to initiating certain infrastructure projects

S-829/A-2135 (Lagana, Singleton/Tully, Swain, Murphy) – Requires property condition disclosure statement to indicate presence of lead plumbing in residential property

S-830/A-2134 (Lagana, Greenstein/Tully, Swain, Conaway) – Requires public water systems to offer drinking water tests to customers in certain circumstances

S-894/A-3874 (Pou, Greenstein/Lopez, Vainieri Huttle) – Prohibits sale of paint or coating removal products that contain methylene chloride unless purchaser meets certain safety standards for use

S-1010/A-2103 (Lagana, Turner/Swain, Tully, Johnson) – Permits counties and municipalities to bond for alternative fuel vehicles

S-1047/A-1712 (Cryan, Pou/Burzichelli, Karabinchak, Giblin) – Concerns disclosure of certain information prior to sale of real estate

S-1148/A-1221 (Ruiz, Pou/Chaparro, Speight, Wimberly) – Requires emergency contact information and access instructions for social services hotline to be provided to tenants of multiple dwellings

S-1239/A-5131 (Codey/McKeon, Danielsen, Jasey) – Authorizes imposition of fee for connection to municipal electric distribution system

S-1259/A-2628 (Singleton/Murphy) – Concerns labor contractors

S-1726/A-795 (Lagana, Pou/Verrelli, Swain, Zwicker) – Prohibits sale of cosmetic products that have been tested on animals

- S-2727/A-4775 (Pennacchio, Pou/Vainieri Huttie, Jasey, McKnight)** – Establishes Multigenerational Family Housing Continuity Commission; provides municipal guidance to periodically analyze local advancement of commission’s senior citizen housing recommendations
- S-2861/A-5390 (Singleton, Addiego/Quijano, McKnight, Speight)** – Concerns certain restrictive covenants on real property
- S-2996/A-5019 (Testa, Sweeney/McClellan, Taliaferro, Johnson)** – Allows Board of Cosmetology and Hairstyling licensees to operate mobile facilities when providing services
- S-3000/A-4688 (Weinberg, Greenstein/Benson, Verrelli, Vainieri Huttie)** – Codifies and establishes certain network adequacy standards for pediatric primary and specialty care in Medicaid program
- S-3032/A-4855 (Sweeney, Vitale/Benson, Vainieri Huttie, Chiaravalloti)** – Requires DOH to develop Statewide plan for infection control and prevention infrastructure improvements in nursing homes
- S-3091/A-4933 (Addiego, Bateman/Burzichelli, Benson, Mukherji)** – Requires builders to offer unit concrete products that utilize carbon footprint-reducing technology as option in new construction; establishes tax incentives, and State and local purchasing requirements, for unit concrete products that utilize carbon footprint-reducing technology
- S-3253/A-2619 (Singleton, Ruiz/Murphy, Speight, Mukherji)** – Establishes alternate route to expedite certification of teachers at early college high school programs
- S-3318/A-5893 (Sweeney, Pou/Vainieri Huttie, Caputo, Karabinchak)** – Provides for voluntary contributions by taxpayers on gross income tax returns for Special Olympics New Jersey
- S-3590/A-5536 (Diegnan, Turner/Burzichelli, Giblin)** – Allows formation of limited liability companies by real estate salespersons and broker-salespersons to receive commission income and requires certain disclosures on promotions
- S-3811/A-5769 (Sweeney, Scutari/Reynolds-Jackson, Quijano, Carter)** – Establishes Kean University as public urban research university
- S-3948/A-5896 (Addiego, Gopal/Houghtaling, Downey)** – Authorizes supplemental State aid to school districts receiving certain federal Impact Aid; makes appropriation
- SJR-41/AJR-33 (Cruz-Perez, Addiego/Lopez, McKnight)** – Designates June 2 of each year as “Gun Violence Awareness Day”
- SJR-109/AJR-208 (Weinberg, Pou/McKnight, Benson, Vainieri Huttie)** – Condemns hate and violent extremism and commits to defense of safe and just democracy
- A-637/S-2670 (Caputo, Dancer, Houghtaling/Beach)** – Revises permit and license processes for sports pools operators and online sports pool operators; revises definitions of certain sports events; allows for transactional waiver for sports wagering lounge
- A-853/S-797 (Chiaravalloti, Karabinchak, McKnight/Cunningham, Doherty)** – Prohibits municipal licensure of children operating temporary businesses
- A-2311/S-356 (Calabrese, Jasey/Cryan, Codey)** – Establishes study commission to examine development of mutually beneficial relationships between institutions of higher education and municipalities
- A-3027/S-793 (Lampitt, Jasey, Houghtaling/Cunningham, Singleton)** – Commits \$3 million from Supplemental Workforce Fund for Basic Skill to NJ Community College Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development
- ACS for A-3352/S-3504 (Kennedy, Stanley, Calabrese/Smith)** – Requires certain newly constructed warehouses to be solar-ready buildings

A-3897/S-3263 (Armato, Mazzeo, DiMaso/Beach, Gopal) – Increases fee for New Jersey Waterfowl Stamps

A-4138/S-2701 (Vainieri Huttle, Benson, Giblin/Gopal, Codey) – Requires Department of Human Services to develop public emergency response plan for licensed providers of services to individuals with developmental disabilities

A-4367/S-2794 (Mukherji, Sumter, Taliaferro/Pou, Scutari) – Provides that AOC shall administer program for municipal courts allowing defendants to engage in online plea negotiations, entry of guilty plea, and payment of fine or penalty

A-4484/S-3153 (McKnight, Kennedy, Mukherji, Gove/Pou, Vitale) – Requires State Long-Term Care Ombudsman to establish long-term care advocacy and educational training program

A-4538/S-3131 (Lampitt, Quijano/Pou, A.M. Bucco) – Requires dental insurers to provide credits for reduced usage during coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic

A-4544/S-3150 (Caputo, Jasey, Murphy/Pou, Codey) – Permits school nurse who is retired from TPAF to return to employment for up to two years without reenrollment in TPAF

A-4633/S-2856 (Giblin, DeCroce/Pou) – Permits certain nonresident Certified Public Accountants to provide attest services

A-4831/S-3953 (Chaparro, Kennedy, Murphy/Scutari) – Clarifies classification in this State of criminal offenses committed in other states or under federal law

A-4836/S-3313 (Giblin, Benson, Downey/Pou, Turner) – Establishes task force to evaluate quality, efficacy, costs, and educational outcomes of online courses offered by public and independent institutions of higher education and degree-granting proprietary institutions during COVID-19 pandemic

A-4861/S-3041 (Vainieri Huttle, Armato, Verrelli/Vitale, Gopal) – Requires DOH to publish total number of COVID-19 deaths and cases in long-term care facilities

A-4869/S-2414 (Wirths, Verrelli, Space/Singleton, Madden) – Requires certain bidders for prevailing wage public work to provide proof that prevailing wage will be paid

A-5059/S-3031 (Conaway, Vainieri Huttle, Benson/Sweeney, Vitale) – Requires DOH to establish certain nursing education and professional advancement programs

A-5212/S-3638 (Conaway, Verrelli, Karabinchak/Turner, Diegnan) – Permits dentists to administer vaccines under certain circumstances

A-5751/S-3823 (Swain, Timberlake, Carter, Johnson/Weinberg, Gopal) – Expands State corrections officers training to include topics contributing to their core mission of treating inmates with dignity, fairness, and respect

A-5817/S-3852 (Tully, Swain, Benson/Lagana, Diegnan) – Revises violation and fines for approving or assigning unauthorized individuals as school bus drivers

A-5818/S-3849 (Tully, Swain, Benson/Lagana, Diegnan) – Provides for debarment of school bus contractors for certain violations; requires certain information in pupil transportation contract bid

AJR-204/SJR-105 (Jasey, Benson, Reynolds-Jackson/Cunningham, T. Kean) – Designates April of each year as “Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) Month” in New Jersey

AJR-238/SJR-123 (Burzichelli/Sweeney, Singleton) – Urges U.S. President and EPA to take appropriate action, through waivers and other reforms, to allow blending of renewable fuels under the federal “Clean Air Act”

Governor Murphy conditionally vetoed the following bills:

S-108/A-169 (Gill, Turner/Caputo, Wirths) – **CONDITIONAL** - Concerns speech rights of student journalists at public schools and public institutions of higher education

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S-2078/A-5008 (Weinberg, Addiego/Lampitt, Benson, Vainieri Huttie) – CONDITIONAL - Establishes “Stillbirth Resource Center” and regional Fetal and Infant Mortality Review Committee, and programs for the prevention and reduction of incidences of stillbirth; expands list of professionals authorized to provide stillbirth-related care

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S-2160/A-5701 (Sweeney, Oroho, Singer/Carter, Lampitt, Jasey) – CONDITIONAL - Creates special education unit within the Office of Administrative Law; requires annual report

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S-2525/A-4274 (Rice, Singleton, Turner/Conaway, Sumter, Stanley) – CONDITIONAL - Expands powers and duties of State Chief Diversity Officer to promote diversity in State government and public contracting

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S-2559/ACS for A-4179 and 4200 (Gopal, Gill/Downey, Conaway, Benson, Houghtaling, Karabinchak) – CONDITIONAL - Revises requirements for health insurance providers and Medicaid to cover services provided using telemedicine and telehealth; appropriates \$5 million

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S-2834/A-5312 (Ruiz, Cunningham/Quijano, Lampitt, McKnight) – CONDITIONAL - Mandates training on culturally responsive teaching for all candidates for teaching certification

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S-2953/A-4785 (Sweeney, Cunningham/Quijano, Verrelli, Mukherji) – CONDITIONAL - Expands scope of inmate reentry assistance and benefits

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S-3238/A-5213 (Ruiz, Pou/Verrelli, McKnight, McKeon) – CONDITIONAL - Establishes New Jersey Easy Enrollment Health Insurance Program

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S-3488/A-5537 (Sweeney, Gopal, O'Scanlon/Burzichelli, Dancer, Spearman) – CONDITIONAL - Modifies certain procedures pertaining to school district regionalization; establishes grant program for cost reimbursement of conducting regionalization feasibility studies; and provides financial incentives for regionalization

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S-3867/A-5868 (Addiego, Singleton/Benson, Verrelli, Vainieri Huttie) – CONDITIONAL - Establishes Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund and Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund Advisory Council; provides for funds received from opioid settlements to support substance use disorder prevention and treatment programs

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S-3955/A-5905 (Ruiz/Timberlake, Speight, Spearman) – CONDITIONAL - Establishes “Rental Assistance Navigation Program” in DCA; makes appropriation

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A-1533/S-3321 (Spearman, Reynolds-Jackson, Schaer/Stack, Turner) – CONDITIONAL - Requires reservation of portion of tenant-based vouchers under State rental assistance program for persons displaced due to redevelopment of an affordable housing development; provides displaced persons with affordable housing priority status

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A-2455/S-2204 (Benson, Vainieri Huttie, DeAngelo/Greenstein, Oroho) – CONDITIONAL - Establishes pilot program in DOE to support FIRST Robotics Programs in school districts

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A-3062/S-1196 (Pintor Marin, Moen, Reynolds-Jackson/Pou, Cruz-Perez) – CONDITIONAL - Establishes three year Financial Empowerment Pilot Program

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A-4002/S-2257 (Caputo, Dancer, Murphy/Gopal, Sarlo) – CONDITIONAL - Allows deduction of promotional gaming credit from gross revenue on sports wagering

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A-4433/S-2715 (Greenwald, Mukherji, Lampitt/Beach, Corrado) – CONDITIONAL - Creates grant program to encourage school districts to partner with institutions of higher education in training school-based mental health services providers

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A-4435/S-2717 (Verrelli, Greenwald, Speight, Lampitt/Beach, Corrado) – CONDITIONAL - Requires DCF to give priority to certain school districts with student mental health counseling centers in awarding grants under School Based Youth Services Program

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A-4630/S-577 (Burzichelli/Madden, Singleton) – CONDITIONAL - Concerns labor harmony agreements in retail and distribution center projects

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A-4746/S-3947 (Mosquera, Lopez, Chaparro, Dunn/Vitale, Turner) – CONDITIONAL - Requires that certain provider subsidy payments for child care services be based on enrollment

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A-4834/S-3474 (Mazzeo, Quijano, Downey/Pou, Turner) – CONDITIONAL - Requires disclosure letter be included with mail falsely implying State government connection

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A-4850/S-3095 (Karabinchak, Freiman, Calabrese, Greenwald/Diegnan) – CONDITIONAL - Establishes expedited construction inspection program

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A-5033/S-3279 (Benson, Dancer, Verrelli/Gopal) – CONDITIONAL - Authorizes motor vehicle dealers to sell motor vehicles online and obtain electronic signatures for motor vehicle transactions

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A-5353/S-3421 (Conaway, Vainieri Huttie, Benson/Madden, Turner) – CONDITIONAL - Provides for certification of temporary nurse aides

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A-5599/S-3916 (Chiaravalloti, Vainieri Huttie, McKnight/Scutari, Gill) – CONDITIONAL - Establishes order of protection for current or former judge; upgrades and clarifies harassment against current or former judge; bars firearms possession by persons against whom current or former judge order of protection is entered

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A-5864/S-3939 (Speight, Pintor Marin, Chaparro, McKnight, DeAngelo, Bergen/Gopal, Cryan) – CONDITIONAL - Allows law enforcement officers to review body worn camera recordings prior to creating initial report

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Governor Murphy absolute vetoed the following bills:

S-415/A-4685 (Turner/Quijano, Verrelli) – ABSOLUTE - Requires reentry assistance to be provided to certain inmates who have served their maximum sentence

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S-969/ACS for A-2687 (Ruiz, Turner/Mazzeo, Lampitt, Moen) – CONDITIONAL - Establishes loan redemption program for teachers in certain fields to redeem loan amounts received under New Jersey College Loans to Assist State Students Loan Program through employment in certain low performing schools

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S-2261/A-4265 (Singleton/Conaway) – ABSOLUTE - Revises law relating to common interest communities

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S-2347/A-4030 (Sweeney, Greenstein, T. Kean/Mukherji, Benson, Murphy) – ABSOLUTE - Establishes Employment and Business-Related Tax Deferral Assistance Program in EDA to allow small businesses to defer the payment and remittance of certain employment and business-related taxes during COVID-19 public health emergency

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S-3093/A-4910 (Gopal, Sweeney, Singleton/Burzichelli, Johnson, Danielsens) – ABSOLUTE - Establishes county-based mitigation plan to allow businesses to operate during pandemic

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S-3505/A-5371 (Scutari, Weinberg/Mukherji, Johnson, Quijano) – ABSOLUTE - Requires assignment of unemployment claims handlers to legislative districts and partisan offices during COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency; appropriates \$1.8 million

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S-3868/A-5895 (Sarlo/Giblin) – ABSOLUTE - Concerns construction code enforcing agency fee revenue

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A-2722/S-1862 (Mukherji/Gopal, Oroho) – ABSOLUTE - Requires Commissioner of Corrections to institute 30-minute shift overlap in State correctional facilities

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A-4297/S-2631 (Houghtaling, Downey, Space/Gopal, Oroho) – ABSOLUTE - Permits conduct of bingos and raffles remotely; permits online sale of tickets for all bingos and raffles

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A-5231/S-3806 (Lopez, Coughlin, Freiman/Vitale) – ABSOLUTE - Allows county or municipal governing body to enter into revenue sharing agreement for alcoholic beverage sales by concessionaire permit holder

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