

40:32-2.6 AND 2.7

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA 40:32-2.6; 40:32-2.7 (County park police system)

Laws of 1976 Chapter 90

Bill No. S1209

Sponsor(s) Russo

Date Introduced February 23, 1976

Committee: Assembly County Gov't.

Senate County & Municipal Gov't.

Amended during passage Yes ~~No~~ Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks.

Date of passage: Assembly July 14, 1976

Senate May 3, 1976

Date of approval Sept. 16, 1976

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement ~~Yes~~ No

Committee Statement: Assembly Yes ~~No~~

Senate Yes ~~No~~

Fiscal Note Yes No

Veto message Yes No

Message on signing Yes ~~No~~

Following were printed:

Reports ~~Yes~~ No

Hearings ~~Yes~~ No

No recommendations in:

974.90 New Jersey. County and Municipal Government Study Commission,
p766 Aspects of law enforcement in New Jersey. Trenton, 1976.
1976a ("Twelfth report" of the Commn.)

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SENATE, No. 1209

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 23, 1976

By Senator RUSSO

Referred to Committee on County and Municipal Government

A SUPPLEMENT to "An act concerning counties, and authorizing the board of chosen freeholders of any county to acquire by gift, grant, contribution, devise, bequest or condemnation, lands and interests therein within the county, and to hold, develop, control, maintain and regulate the same for public park, public recreation, public welfare and hospital purposes," approved April 13, 1940 (P. L. 1940, c. 33, C. 40:32-2.1 et seq.), as said title was amended by P. L. 1963, c. 48.

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

1 1. ****[The board of chosen freeholders of any]**** ***Any*** county
2 maintaining any public park or public recreation area as authorized
3 by the act hereby supplemented, **except for counties with county*
4 *park commissions,** may appoint and establish a constabulary to
5 preserve order in the parks, parkways and recreation areas under
6 its control, and to secure the enforcement of the rules and regula-
7 tions adopted by it, and may organize the constabulary into a
8 police system to be known as "the park police of the county
9 of _____."

10 The police system shall consist of a chief and such subordinate
11 officers as may be deemed necessary and proper for the enforce-
12 ment of the rules and regulations of ****[the board of chosen free-**
13 **holders]**** ***the county*** within the parks, parkways and recrea-
14 tion areas and the proper protection of public property therein.

15 ****[The board of chosen freeholders]**** ***The county*** may
16 establish proper rules and regulations for the appointment, control
17 and management of the members of the constabulary, and from

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

18 the securing of proper discipline and efficiency among the members
19 thereof. **The **[board]** **county** shall require as a condition*
20 *for permanent appointment as a member of the constabulary, the*
21 *successful completion of a police training course at a school*
22 *approved and authorized by Police Training Commission pursuant*
23 *to P. L. 1966, c. 56 (C. 52:17B-66 et seq.).**

1 2. The members and officers of the park police may arrest on
2 view and without warrant, and conduct before the municipal court
3 of the municipality in which the arrest is made, or the municipal
4 court of a neighboring municipality, any persons found violating
5 the rules and regulations adopted by the board of chosen free-
6 holders for the protection, preservation, regulation and control
7 of the parks, parkways and recreation areas, and all property and
8 other things therein*[, and in addition while on duty anywhere
9 within the territorial limits of the county, shall have the same
10 powers for the enforcement of the laws of this State and the appre-
11 hension of violators thereof as are conferred by law upon police
12 officers or constables]*.

1 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

ASSEMBLY COUNTY GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1209

—◆—
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
—◆—

DATED: JUNE 23, 1976

This bill, as amended by the committee, authorizes any county to appoint and establish a county park police system in parks, parkways and recreation areas under its control. The amendments exclude those counties that have adopted the Optional County Charter Law since they already possess these powers and in order that the language used not be interpreted as a limitation upon these counties.

SENATE COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
SENATE, No. 1209

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: APRIL 12, 1976

Senate Bill No. 1209 authorizes the creation of a county park constabulary and provides for the organization thereof.

The board of chosen freeholders of any county maintaining any park or recreation area, pursuant to P. L. 1940, c. 33 (C. 40:32-2.1 et seq.), is authorized to establish a constabulary for the purpose of preserving order, protecting public property in and enforcing such rules and regulations as the board may adopt for the park or recreation areas.

Additionally, this bill (1) authorizes the county to organize the constabulary into a police system and provide for appointment thereto and for the control and management thereof, and (2) grants general police powers (of police officers and constables) to such constabulary, including police powers throughout the territorial limits of the county to be exercised while in the performance of their duties.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

SEPTEMBER 16, 1976

KATHY FORSYTH

Governor Brendan Byrne signed a bill Thursday permitting counties which do not have county park commissions to establish park police forces to preserve order in recreation areas under their control.

The bill, S-1209 requires that members of the park police forces must complete a police training course at a school approved and authorized by the New Jersey Police Training Commission.

County Park Police forces established under the bill would only have police powers in park areas under their jurisdiction.

The bill was sponsored by Senator John Russo (D-Ocean).
