

New Jersey Legislature

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The Legislature consists of two Houses: a 40-member Senate and an 80-member General Assembly.

Contacting Your Legislators

<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/districts/njmap210.html>

You may call, write or electronically mail legislators at their district offices. Consult the Roster of Members listing at this web site for district office addresses and phone numbers. Or you may write to your representatives either in care of either:

New Jersey Senate State House P.O. Box 099 Trenton, NJ 08625-0099	New Jersey General Assembly State House P.O. Box 098 Trenton, NJ 08625-0098
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When addressing mail to a legislator, the title "Honorable" should precede the representative's full name. The letter's salutation should read "Dear Senator" or "Dear Assemblyman/woman."

District 1 - (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland) Avalon, Cape May, Cape May Point, Commercial, Corbin City, Dennis, Downe, Estell Manor, Fairfield (Cumberland), Greenwich (Cumberland), Hopewell (Cumberland), Lawrence (Cumberland), Lower, Maurice River, Middle, Millville, North Wildwood, Ocean City, Sea Isle City, Shiloh, Stone Harbor, Stow Creek, Upper, Vineland, West Cape May, West Wildwood, Weymouth, Wildwood, Wildwood Crest, Woodbine

Senator JEFF VAN DREW - Democrat

Office: School House Office Park, 211 S. Main St., Suite 104, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210 (609) 465-0700

Office: 219 High Street, Suite B, Millville, NJ 08332 (856) 765-0891

Assemblyman BOB ANDRZEJCZAK - Democrat

Office: School House Office Park, 211 S. Main St., Suite 104, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210 (609) 465-0700

Office: 219 High Street, Suite B, Millville, NJ 08332 (856) 765-0891

Assemblyman SAMUEL L. FIOCCHI - Republican

Office: 942 S. Delsea Drive, Unit A, Vineland, NJ 08360 (856) 457-5504

Office: (609) 536-2058

District 2 - (Atlantic) Absecon, Atlantic City, Brigantine, Buena, Buena Vista, Egg Harbor City, Egg Harbor Township, Folsom, Hamilton (Atlantic), Linwood, Longport, Margate City, Mullica, Northfield, Pleasantville, Somers Point, Ventnor City

Senator JIM WHELAN - Democrat

Office: 507 Tilton Rd., Northfield, NJ 08225 (609) 383-1388

Assemblyman CHRIS A. BROWN - Republican

Office: 2021 New Rd., Suite 24, Linwood, NJ 08221 (609) 677-8266

Assemblyman VINCENT MAZZEO - Democrat

Office: 507 Tilton Rd., Northfield, NJ 08225 (609) 383-1388

District 3 - (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem) Alloway, Bridgeton, Carneys Point, Clayton, Deerfield, East Greenwich, Elk, Elmer, Elsinboro, Franklin (Gloucester), Glassboro, Greenwich (Gloucester), Logan, Lower Alloways Creek, Mannington, National Park, Newfield, Oldmans, Paulsboro, Penns Grove, Pennsville, Pilesgrove, Pittsgrove, Quinton, Salem, South Harrison, Swedesboro, Upper Deerfield, Upper Pittsgrove, West Deptford, Woodbury Heights, Woodstown, Woolwich

Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY - Democrat

Office: 935 Kings Highway, Suite 400, West Deptford, NJ 08086 (856) 251-9801

Office: 199 East Broadway, 1st Floor, Suite G, Salem, NJ 08079 (856) 339-0808

Assemblyman JOHN J. BURZICHELLI - Democrat

Office: 935 Kings Highway, Suite 400, West Deptford, NJ 08086 (856) 251-9801

Office: 199 East Broadway, 1st Floor, Suite G, Salem, NJ 08079 (856) 339-0808

Assemblywoman CELESTE M. RILEY - Democrat

Office: 199 East Broadway, 1st Floor, Suite G, Salem, NJ 08079 (856) 339-0808

Office: 935 Kings Highway, Suite 400, West Deptford, NJ 08086 (856) 251-9801

District 4 - (Camden and Gloucester) Chesilhurst, Clementon, Gloucester Township, Laurel Springs, Lindenwold, Monroe (Gloucester), Pitman, Washington (Gloucester), Winslow

Senator FRED H. MADDEN, JR. - Democrat

Office: 129 Johnson Road, Suite 1, Turnersville, NJ 08012 (856) 232-6700

Office: 1379 Chews Landing Rd., Laurel Springs, NJ 08021 (856) 401-3073

Assemblyman PAUL D. MORIARTY - Democrat

Office: 129 Johnson Road, Suite 1, Turnersville, NJ 08012 (856) 232-6700

Office: 1379 Chews Landing Rd., Laurel Springs, NJ 08021 (856) 401-3073

Assemblywoman GABRIELA M. MOSQUERA - Democrat

Office: 129 Johnson Road, Suite 1, Turnersville, NJ 08012 (856) 232-6700

Office: 1379 Chews Landing Rd., Laurel Springs, NJ 08021 (856) 401-3073

District 8 - (Atlantic, Burlington and Camden) Berlin Borough, Eastampton, Evesham, Hainesport, Hammonton, Lumberton, Mansfield (Burlington), Medford, Medford Lakes, Mount Holly, Pemberton Borough, Pemberton Township, Pine Hill, Pine Valley, Shamong, Southampton, Springfield (Burlington), Waterford, Westampton, Woodland

Senator DAWN MARIE ADDIEGO - Republican

Office: 176 Route 70, Suite 13, Medford, NJ 08055 (609) 654-1498

Assemblyman CHRISTOPHER J. BROWN - Republican

Office: 176 Route 70, Suite 13, Medford, NJ 08055 (609) 654-1498

Assemblywoman MARIA RODRIGUEZ-GREGG - Republican

Office: 176 Route 70, Suite 13, Medford, NJ 08055 (609) 654-1498

District 9 - (Atlantic, Burlington and Ocean) Barnegat, Barnegat Light, Bass River, Beach Haven, Beachwood, Berkeley, Eagleswood, Galloway, Harvey Cedars, Lacey, Little Egg Harbor, Long Beach, Ocean Gate, Ocean Township (Ocean), Pine Beach, Port Republic, Seaside Park, Ship Bottom, South Toms River, Stafford, Surf City, Tabernacle, Tuckerton, Washington (Burlington)

Senator CHRISTOPHER J. CONNORS - Republican

Office: 620 West Lacey Rd., Forked River, NJ 08731 (609) 693-6700

Assemblywoman DIANNE C. GOVE - Republican

Office: 620 West Lacey Rd., Forked River, NJ 08731 (609) 693-6700

Assemblyman BRIAN E. RUMPF - Republican

Office: 620 West Lacey Rd., Forked River, NJ 08731 (609) 693-6700

How a Bill Becomes Law in New Jersey

1. Idea Developed - A legislator decides to sponsor a bill, sometimes at the suggestion of a constituent, interest group, public official, or the Governor. The legislator may ask other legislators in the same House to join as co-sponsors.
2. Bill Drafted - At the legislator's direction, the Office of Legislative Services, a non-partisan agency of the Legislature, provides research and drafting assistance, and prepares the bill in proper technical form.
3. Bill Introduced - During a session, the legislator gives the bill to the Senate Secretary or Assembly Clerk, who reads the bill's title aloud. This is known as the first reading. The bill is printed and released to the public.
4. Committee Reference - The Senate President or Assembly Speaker usually refers the bill to a committee for review, but may send the bill directly to the second reading in order to speed its consideration.
5. Committee Action - When scheduled by the chair, the committee considers the bill at a meeting open to the public. The committee may report the bill to the House as is, with amendments, or by a substitute bill.
6. Second Reading - When the bill is reported to the floor, its title is read aloud for the second reading. The bill is eligible for amendment on the floor. After the bill is given a third reading, the House must vote to return it for any further amendments.
7. Third Reading - When scheduled by the President or Speaker, the bill is given a third reading and considered on the floor. The bill may not go through the second and third reading on the same day, except by an emergency vote of 3/4 of the members. .
8. House Vote - The bill passes when approved by a majority of the authorized members (21 votes in the Senate, 41 in the Assembly) and is sent to the other House. If a final vote is not taken, the bill may be considered at another time or may be returned to a committee by a vote of the House.
9. Second House - The bill is delivered to the second House where it goes through the same process. If the second House amends the bill, it is returned to the first House for a vote on the changes. A bill receives final legislative approval when it passes both Houses.
10. Governor's Action - After final passage, the bill is sent to the Governor. The Governor may sign it, conditionally veto it (returning it for changes) or veto it absolutely. The Governor may veto single line items of appropriation bills.
11. Law - A bill becomes law upon the Governor's signature or after 45 days if no action is taken. If the House of origin is in recess on the 45th day, the time is extended until it reconvenes. (Different rules apply to bills passed during the last 45 days of a two-year session.) If vetoed, a bill may become law if the Legislature overrides the veto by a 2/3 vote. A law takes effect on the day specified in its text or, if unspecified, the next July 4th.

Four Bills of Interest as of June, 2014

All will go to Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee (with two members from our area):

Bob Andrzejczak, [from District 1 & Chair]; Gilbert Wilson; Ronald S. Dancer; Celeste M. Riley [District 3]; Parker Space

A3133 Requires DEP to establish "private wildlife habitat certification program"; creates affirmative defense against municipal nuisance ordinances for properties certified under the program.

Sponsored by Assemblyman Jon M. Bramnick; Assemblyman John J. Burzichelli (District 3)

http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2014/Bills/A3500/3133_I1.HTM

"This bill would direct the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to establish a private wildlife habitat certification program. In establishing the program, the commissioner would be authorized to consider any standards used by recognized conservation organizations for purposes of certifying properties as suitable wildlife habitat. A person who registers a property that has been certified under the program, as outlined below, would be entitled to an affirmative defense against any liability for a violation of a municipal ordinance under which the 'certified private wildlife habitat,' or any component thereof, is deemed, or would be deemed, a nuisance or an otherwise unlawful condition.

In establishing a private wildlife habitat certification program, the commissioner would be required to adopt rules and regulations to implement the program. The rules and regulations would establish standards and procedures for the physical inspection of a property and, thereafter, its certification as "certified private wildlife habitat."

The rules and regulations would also identify one or more private certifying entities to implement the physical inspection and certification.

The certifying entities identified in the rules and regulations could include nonprofit conservation organizations, for-profit landscaping companies, or any other private entities, provided that the commissioner has determined that any such entity possesses the appropriate expertise, qualifications, and resources to assess whether a property satisfies the standards and criteria established for purposes of certifying a property as a "certified private wildlife habitat." The certifying entities would be authorized to charge fees to cover reasonable costs associated with the inspection and certification process.

The bill would also require that the rules and regulations promote the use of native plants. In addition, certifying entities would be required to issue to the owner of each certified property (1) a certificate of registration to be filed with the municipality in which the property is located, and (2) a sign for purposes of designating the property as a "certified private wildlife habitat."

Under the bill, prior to altering a property for purposes of establishing a "certified private wildlife habitat," the owner of the property would be required to obtain from a certifying entity a certificate of registration and file it with the municipality in which the property is located. The municipal clerk would be authorized to charge a fee not to exceed \$25 for each certificate of registration filed.

A certificate of registration would expire two years after the issue date; however, the bill provides that the property owner could renew a certificate of registration for an additional two years by submitting a written and signed certification affirming that the property continues to comply with all applicable standards and criteria for certified private wildlife habitats and remains substantially unaltered, or has been improved, since the time the initial certificate of registration was issued. The bill would allow for only one such renewal. Upon the expiration of a certificate of registration, a person could apply for a new certificate of registration, which would issue subject to all the aforementioned standards, procedures, and requirements, including a new physical inspection and new certification of the property by a certifying entity.

A person who provides a notice of intent to alter a property for purposes of establishing a "certified private wildlife habitat," and thereafter timely registers the property and maintains an unexpired certificate of registration with a municipality, would be entitled to an affirmative defense against any liability for a violation of a municipal ordinance under which the "certified private wildlife habitat," or any component thereof, is deemed, or would be deemed, a nuisance or an otherwise unlawful condition. The person would be entitled to this affirmative defense from the time of filing the notice of intent, provided that a certificate of registration is indeed obtained and filed within 60 days after the notice of intent."

A3125 Prohibits sale or planting of certain invasive plant species.

Sponsored by Assemblywoman Marlene Caride (District 36)

http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2014/Bills/A3500/3125_I1.HTM

“This bill would prohibit the sale, planting, propagation or distribution of certain invasive plants in the State, except for scientific or educational purposes. The invasive plants covered by the bill are Canadian Thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), Eurasian Watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), Japanese Honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), Japanese Knotweed (*Polygonum caspidatum*), Japanese Stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*), Mile-a-minute (*Polygonum perfoliatum*), Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), and Water Chestnut (*Trapa natans*), and include the plant, and any cutting, flower, seed, root, other plant part, or cultivar therefrom. The bill provides that a violation of the prohibition would constitute a disorderly persons offense, and could subject the violator to a civil penalty of up to \$100 for a first offense, up to \$200 for a second offense, and up to \$500 for a third or subsequent offense. Finally, the bill authorizes the Department of Agriculture to seek injunctive relief to prohibit or prevent a violation of the bill.”

A1305 Requires any State entity planting vegetation to use only vegetation native to area being planted, and when purchasing vegetation, to purchase, to the maximum extent possible, only from NJ businesses.

Sponsored by Assemblyman Ronald S. Dancer; Assemblyman Gilbert "Whip" L. Wilson; Assemblywoman Celeste M. Riley (District 3)

http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2014/Bills/A1500/1305_I1.HTM

“This bill would require that whenever any State entity plants vegetation for purposes of landscaping, land management, reforestation, or habitat restoration, the State entity would be required to plant only vegetation that is native to the area being planted. In addition, when purchasing vegetation for such purposes, the State entity would be required, to the maximum extent possible, to purchase only from businesses located in New Jersey.

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) would be required to adopt rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of the bill, including rules and regulations that identify those particular species of vegetation that are native to each plant hardiness zone found within the State, as identified pursuant to the most recent edition of the Plant Hardiness Zone Map published by the United States Department of Agriculture. When planting in any given plant hardiness zone, State entities would be required to plant only those species identified by the DEP rules and regulations as being native to that zone.”

A1373 Prohibits use or sale of neonicotinoid pesticides.

Sponsored by Assemblywoman Linda Stender (District 22)

http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2014/Bills/A1500/1373_I1.HTM

“This bill would prohibit the use, sale, offer for sale or promotional purposes, or distribution of any neonicotinoid pesticide. Neonicotinoid pesticides are suspected of having adverse effects on pollinating insects and may contribute to the disappearance of bee populations, commonly referred to as “colony collapse disorder.”

The bill defines a “neonicotinoid pesticide” as any pesticide containing a chemical belonging to the neonicotinoid class of chemicals, including, but not limited to, imidacloprid, nithiazine, acetamiprid, clothianidin, dinotefuran, thiacloprid, thiamethoxam, or any other chemical designated by the Department of Environmental Protection (department), through rules and regulations, as belonging to the neonicotinoid class of chemicals.

Any person in violation of the provisions of the bill would be subject to a civil penalty of \$500 for the first offense and \$1,000 for the second or subsequent offense and the department would be authorized to institute a civil action for injunctive relief in order to enforce the provisions of the bill. The bill would take effect on the 180th day after the date of enactment.”