

AN ACT concerning transparency in the legislative process and supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

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

1. a. A house of the Legislature shall not vote upon a bill or resolution unless the bill or resolution, in the form in which it is to be voted upon, is publicly available in electronic form on the Legislature's Internet website for 72 hours preceding the vote; provided, however, if either house shall resolve by vote of three-fourths of all its members, signified by yeas and nays entered on the journal, that a bill or resolution is an emergency measure, then the house may vote upon the bill or resolution notwithstanding the requirements of this subsection.

b. If either house of the Legislature resolves that a bill or resolution is an emergency measure, such house shall prepare a statement explaining the basis for its determination that the bill or resolution is an emergency measure, which statement shall be filed with the Clerk of the General Assembly or Secretary of the Senate, as applicable, and the Office of Legislative Services, and shall be publicly available in electronic form on the Legislature's Internet website.

2. a. The Legislative Services Commission shall direct the Office of Legislative Services to prepare an analysis for each bill or resolution considered by a standing committee of either house of the Legislature. The Clerk of the General Assembly and Secretary of the Senate, as applicable, shall not accept a bill or resolution reported from committee without the analysis required pursuant to this subsection. The analysis shall be publicly available in electronic form on the Legislature's Internet website.

b. The analysis prepared pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall contain the following:

(1) a digest of the provisions of the bill or resolution as reported by the committee;

(2) an explanation by separate subheading of the nature of any amendments adopted by the committee;

(3) a statement of the motion by which the bill or resolution was reported;

(4) a summary of the provisions of any law to be repealed;

(5) a tally of each committee member who voted on or abstained from the motion to report the bill or resolution;

(6) supporting or background information which a sponsor of the bill or resolution or the committee members who voted to report the bill or resolution may wish to provide;

(7) a minority statement which the committee members who voted against or abstained from the motion to report the bill or resolution may wish to provide; and

(8) a list of all organizations or individuals who submitted written testimony to the committee or who submitted documentation to the

committee evidencing their support or opposition to the bill or resolution.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill requires every bill and resolution to be voted upon by either house of the Legislature to be publicly available in electronic form on the Legislature's Internet website for 72 hours prior to final passage. Either house of the Legislature may vote on a bill or resolution notwithstanding this requirement by declaring the bill or resolution an emergency measure upon a vote of three-fourths of all its members. If either house of the Legislature determines that a bill or resolution is an emergency measure, the bill requires the house declaring the bill an emergency measure to file a statement with the Clerk of the General Assembly or Secretary of the Senate, as applicable, and the Office of Legislative Services explaining the basis for its determination that the bill or resolution is an emergency measure. The bill requires that this statement be available to the public on the Legislature's Internet website.

The bill also requires the Office of Legislative Services to prepare an analysis for each bill or resolution considered by a standing committee of either house of the Legislature. The bill requires that the analysis include a list of all witnesses who submitted testimony to the committee or who submitted documentation to the committee supporting or opposing a bill or resolution considered by the committee. The bill further requires that the analysis be publicly available in electronic form on the Legislature's Internet website.

Requires Legislature to make certain information concerning bills and resolutions available to public prior to final passage.