



Garden State Bar Association New Jersey Legislative Update

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Currently there are 35 attorneys in the New Jersey Legislature; 22 in the Assembly and 13 in the Senate.
As of October 2nd, 2008:

- 3,143 bills and 103 resolutions have been introduced in the General Assembly this session;
- 2,054 bills and 78 resolutions have been introduced in the Senate;
- A total of 91 bills, 47 from the General Assembly and 41 from the Senate, have been signed into law by the Governor.

2008 – 2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The following bills have become law:

Bill Information	Description
A-500 Asm. Roberts	Revises laws concerning the provision of affordable housing.
A-873 Asm. Albano	Extends Temporary Disability Insurance to provide family leave benefits for workers caring for sick family members, newborn and newly adopted children
A-2607 Asm. Green	Requires each general hospital and State psychiatric hospital to annually conduct public meeting for community it serves.
S-335 Asm. Rible	Authorizes each municipality that shares courtroom facilities with one or more municipalities to appoint a judge and an administrator.
S-367 Senator Lesniak	Upgrades penalties for tampering with witnesses and informants; upgrades hindering apprehension or prosecution under certain circumstances.

The following bills are pending in the General Assembly or the Senate:

Civil Actions

Bill Information	Description
A-1018 Asm. Wisniewski	Amends Tort Claims Act concerning liability for discretionary acts.
A-1550 Asw. Greenstein	Eliminates inheritance rights and the right of recovery in certain civil actions for a surviving parent who abandoned a decedent child.
A-2292 Asw. Greenstein	Makes various changes to the "Law Against Discrimination"; repeals section 4 of P.L.1985, c.73.
A-2861 Asm. Conoway	Provides civil immunity for certain volunteer physicians, nonprofit clinics and federally qualified health centers.
A-1158 Asw. Oliver	Expands wrongful death act to allow recovery for mental anguish, emotional pain and suffering, loss of society and loss of companionship.

Court Administration

Bill Information	Description
A-2303 Asm. Diegnan	Imposes limits on fees charged for discovery in municipal court matters.
A-2339 Asw. Greenstein	Requires policy on use of alternative dispute resolution for State agencies; expands duties of Dispute Settlement Office of Department of Public Advocate.

More information on this legislation can be found at
<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/>

Bill Information	Description
A-2760 Asw. Pou	Establishes "Court Security Enhancement Fund" and increases court fees.
A-2707/ S-1420 Asm. Conners	Increases certain fees in Special Civil Part; increases certain fees paid to persons to serve process in Special Civil Part.
A-2789 Asm. Burzichelli	Creates eight additional judgeships; increases certain court fees to fund judgeships and to supplement funding for Legal Services of New Jersey.
A-2715 Asm. Roberts	Provides that the New Jersey Supreme Court shall have the authority to administer juror challenges through its rulemaking process.
A-1083 Asm Cryan	Permits publication of legal notices by governments and individuals on official government website instead of newspaper.

Criminal Law

Bill Information	Description
A-1771 Asw. Watson Coleman	Revises eligibility for expungement of criminal and juvenile delinquency records.
A-1309 Asw. Stender	Requires the "Commission to Review Criminal Sentencing" to examine activities which victimize persons, particularly women and children, and are not codified in the Code of Criminal Justice and recommend appropriate legislation for establishing such crimes.

Family Law

Bill Information	Description
A-112 Asw. Vainieri Huttle	Provides that payment of alimony shall become judgment by operation of law when due, and shall be enforceable as a civil judgment.
A-315 Asw. Quigley	Provides that DNA test results may be used in establishing parentage.
A-809 Asm. Gusciora	Enacts the "New Jersey Parentage Act of 2006."

Property

Bill Information	Description
A-143 Asm. Ramos	Eliminates a parent's right to inherit under certain circumstances.
A-1478 Asm. Burzichelli	Requires executors to post bond and provide periodic accountings to the court where beneficiary is developmentally disabled.
A-2054 Asm. Wisniewski	Shortens time periods for adverse possession, clarifies statutes, and repeals N.J.S.2A:14-30 and N.J.S.2A:14-31.

Prosecutors

Bill Information	Description
A-376 Asm. Diegnan	Prohibits municipal prosecutors from making certain recommendations to the court.
A-1918 Asm. Gusciora	Increases the term of a municipal prosecutor from one year to three years.
A-1926 Asm. Gusciora	Requires the State to reimburse counties for costs incurred in connection with the operation of county prosecutors' offices.

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