

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION AND INDEPENDENT
AUTHORITIES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 4470

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 23, 2023

The Assembly Transportation and Independent Authorities Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4470.

As reported, this bill prohibits the operation of a truck of 10,000 pounds registered gross weight or more in the left lane of a roadway with two or more lanes of traffic traveling in the same direction including on roadways under the jurisdiction of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority and South Jersey Transportation Authority. The bill includes a fine of not less than \$200 to not more than \$600 for this violation and provides provide certain exemptions for trucks preparing for a left turn, entering or leaving the roadway by entrance or exit to or from the left lane, and in response to emergency conditions. Current law prohibits such trucks from operating in the farthest left-hand lane of a roadway with three or more lanes of traffic traveling in the same direction and imposes a fine of not less than \$100 to not more than \$300 for such violation.

The bill also prohibits a person who is alleged to have operated a truck of 10,000 pounds registered gross weight or more in the farthest left-hand lane to enter a guilty or not guilty plea or submit a defense for use at trial by mail or in an electronic system, thereby requiring the person to appear in court.

The bill requires the Commissioner of Transportation, the Executive Director of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority, and the Executive Director of the South Jersey Transportation Authority to erect and maintain signs on roadways under the jurisdiction of each respective agency that inform operators of the general prohibition of driving a truck of 10,000 pounds registered gross weight or more in the farthest left-hand lane on roadways with two or more lanes for traffic traveling in the same direction.

The Commissioner of Transportation, Executive Director of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority, Executive Director of the South Jersey Transportation Authority, and the Administrative Director of the Courts are required to jointly prepare and submit an annual report concerning the number of signs posted in the State indicating that trucks of 10,000 pounds registered gross weight or more are generally prohibited from driving in the farthest left-hand lane on certain

roadways and the number of tickets issued, violations committed, and revenue collected for such violations.