

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 88

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 2, 2022

Sponsored by:
Senator EDWARD DURR
District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

SYNOPSIS

Urges PANYNJ to improve conditions for port truckers that operate in port facilities.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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- 1 **A SENATE RESOLUTION** urging the Port Authority of New York and
2 New Jersey to improve conditions for the port truckers that
3 operate in port facilities.
4
- 5 **WHEREAS**, The Port of New York and New Jersey, which is operated
6 by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (port authority)
7 and is the largest port on the East coast, is considered the gateway
8 to the one of the most concentrated consumer markets in North
9 America with 72 percent of consumer goods shipped to or from the
10 East coast traveling through the port; and
- 11 **WHEREAS**, The port, which encompasses several port facilities,
12 including the Port Newark, Elizabeth Port Authority Marine
13 Terminal, Port Jersey Port Authority Marine Terminal, Howland
14 Hook Marine Terminal and Brooklyn Port Authority Marine
15 Terminal, has faced backlogs that have been exacerbated by supply
16 chain shortages; and
- 17 **WHEREAS**, As a result of backlogged port facilities, many port
18 truckers, or tractor trailer operators who transport the containers
19 unloaded from container cargo vessels, regularly face long wait
20 times and have been required to idle for hours outside of port
21 facilities with lines as long as five miles and wait times up to eight
22 hours long; and
- 23 **WHEREAS**, Many port truckers have seen the waiting conditions to
24 pick up cargo grow increasingly uncomfortable as many port
25 facilities do not have bathroom facilities for port truckers, do not
26 allow port truckers to exit their cabs while waiting in line, and do
27 not have emergency exits at the port facilities to allow port truckers
28 to depart the line in the event of an emergency; and
- 29 **WHEREAS**, At certain port facilities, specifically the Port of Elizabeth,
30 emergencies can result in major penalties, as a port trucker has the
31 potential to be suspended from loading and unloading at the facility
32 for two weeks if a port trucker suffers an emergency that requires
33 them to leave their cab; and
- 34 **WHEREAS**, Such violations systems, including the system at the Port
35 of Elizabeth, are enforced without any due process or right of
36 appeal for the port truckers; and
- 37 **WHEREAS**, These violation systems are particularly troubling as they
38 jeopardize the livelihood of many port truckers, who are paid by the
39 load or terminal container, by preventing them access to the port
40 facility and thereby preventing them from making a livelihood; and
- 41 **WHEREAS**, It incumbent on the port authority to offer restrooms for
42 port truckers, create well-labeled emergency exits at port facilities,
43 and amend the violations systems at port facilities to provide for
44 actual due process and rights to appeal for port truckers; and
- 45 **WHEREAS**, As approximately 85 percent of the goods that move
46 through the Port of New York and New Jersey are transported by
47 truck, the port authority is the entity that is required to improve the

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1 conditions for the port truckers, who keep the economy of the
2 region and nation moving; now, therefore,

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4 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:*

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6 1. This House urges the Port Authority of New York and New
7 Jersey to improve conditions for the port truckers that operate in
8 port facilities by providing restrooms, creating well-labeled
9 emergency exits at port facilities, and amending the violations
10 systems at port facilities to provide for actual due process and rights
11 to appeal for port truckers.

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13 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
14 shall be transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the Governor
15 of the State of New Jersey, the Governor of the State of New York,
16 the Executive Director of the Port Authority of New York and New
17 Jersey, and the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Port
18 Authority of New York and New Jersey.

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STATEMENT

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23 This resolution urges the Port Authority of New York and New
24 Jersey to improve conditions for the port truckers that operate in
25 port facilities by providing restrooms, creating well-labeled
26 emergency exits at port facilities, and amending the violations
27 systems at port facilities to provide for actual due process and rights
28 to appeal.