

CHAPTER 245

AN ACT establishing the “New Jersey Scenic and Historic Highways Program,” and supplementing Title 27 of the Revised Statutes.

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

C.27:5K-1 Findings, declarations relative to scenic, historic highways.

1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

a. Certain portions of the State highway system are notable for their scenic, historic, recreational, cultural, and archaeological value and are worthy of official designation as scenic and historic highways to provide special consideration of their unique features and special role in the highway system;

b. The public interest would be served by the creation of a coordinated scenic and historic highways program to enhance recreation, preserve and protect scenic, historic, recreational, cultural, and archaeological resources, encourage economic development through tourism, and educate the public about the history and culture of this State;

c. New Jersey lags behind other states around the country in terms of preserving roadways which have scenic, historic, and other intrinsic qualities; and

d. It is altogether fitting and proper for the Legislature to establish a “New Jersey Scenic and Historic Highways Program” in the Department of Transportation which will encourage the promotion and preservation of the scenic, historic, recreational, cultural, and archaeological qualities of certain roadways, and areas surrounding such roadways, throughout the State.

C.27:5K-2 Definitions relative to scenic, historic highways.

2. As used in this act:

“Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Transportation.

“Department” means the Department of Transportation.

“Program” means the New Jersey Scenic and Historic Highways Program established by section 3 of P.L.2009, c.245 (C.27:5K-3).

“Public entity” means the State, any county, municipality, district, public authority, public agency, and any other political subdivision or public body in the State.

C.27:5K-3 “New Jersey Scenic and Historic Highways Program.”

3. a. There is hereby established a “New Jersey Scenic and Historic Highways Program” to be administered by the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of this act. The program is established to encourage the State and counties and municipalities throughout the State to preserve the unique and intrinsic qualities of roadways deemed to have scenic, historic, recreational, cultural, or archaeological value.

b. Any roadway in this State, including the surrounding area thereof, which has scenic, historic, recreational, cultural, or archaeological value may be designated through an act of the Legislature for inclusion in the program.

c. Once a roadway has been designated for inclusion in the program, the department and all other public entities with jurisdiction over the roadway or the surrounding area are encouraged to preserve and promote the scenic, historic, recreational, cultural, or archaeological qualities, or any combination of the foregoing, that served as the basis for the roadway’s inclusion in the program. The department and public entities with jurisdiction over a roadway which has been included in the program are encouraged not to make any physical changes to the roadway, or its surrounding area, that would degrade any of its

scenic, historic, recreational, cultural, or archaeological qualities. The preservation and promotion of a roadway that has been designated for inclusion in the program shall include, but not be limited to, the following activities:

(1) Making safety improvements to the roadway to the extent that such improvements are necessary to accommodate increased traffic and changes in the types of vehicles using the roadway due to its inclusion in the program;

(2) Constructing rest areas, turnouts, highway shoulder improvements, passing lanes, overlooks, interpretive facilities, and other facilities for use by pedestrians and bicyclists along the roadway;

(3) Making improvements that will enhance access to recreational areas in the vicinity of the roadway;

(4) Protecting scenic, historical, recreational, cultural, and archaeological resources in areas adjacent to the roadway; and

(5) Developing and promoting tourist information to the public, including interpretive information about the program and the specific roadways that have been designated for inclusion in the program.

C.27:5K-4 Roadways designated for inclusion.

4. The following roadways are designated for inclusion in the New Jersey Scenic and Historic Highways Program:

a. "Quaker Road Scenic and Historic Highway," which consists of the entire length of Quaker Road beginning at the road's intersection with Province Line Road in the township of Princeton, county of Mercer, extending in a general northerly direction, and ending at the intersection of Quaker Road and Lawrenceville Road in the township of Princeton, county of Mercer;

b. "Closter Dock Road Scenic and Historic Highway," which consists of the entire length of Closter Dock Road beginning at the road's intersection with Harrington Avenue in the borough of Closter, county of Bergen, extending in a general easterly direction, and ending at the intersection of Closter Dock Road and U.S. Route 9W in the borough of Alpine, county of Bergen;

c. "Huyler's Landing Road Scenic and Historic Highway," which consists of the entire length of Huyler's Landing Road beginning at the road's intersection with East Madison Avenue in the borough of Cresskill, county of Bergen, extending in a general easterly direction, and ending at the intersection of Huyler's Landing Road and Vaccaro Drive in the borough of Cresskill, county of Bergen;

d. "Kinderkamack Road Scenic and Historic Highway," which consists of the entire length of roadway beginning at the road's intersection with Johnson Avenue in the city of Hackensack, county of Bergen, extending in a general northerly direction and becoming North Kinderkamack Road, continuing in a general northerly direction, and ending at the New York state line in the vicinity of the borough of Montvale, county of Bergen;

e. "Franklin Avenue Scenic and Historic Highway," which consists of the entire length of Franklin Avenue beginning at the road's intersection with Ramapo Valley Road in the borough of Oakland, county of Bergen, extending in a general easterly direction, and ending at the intersection of Franklin Avenue and Van Blarcom Lane in the township of Wyckoff, county of Bergen;

f. "Dunkerhook Road Scenic and Historic Highway," which consists of the entire length of Dunkerhook Road beginning at the road's intersection with Saddle River Road in the borough of Fair Lawn, county of Bergen, extending in a general northeasterly direction, and

ending at the intersection of Dunkerhook Road and Paramus Road in the borough of Paramus, county of Bergen;

g. “Piermont and Rockleigh Roads Scenic and Historic Highway,” which consists of the following portions of roadway:

(1) The entire length of Piermont Road beginning at the road’s intersection with County Road and East Clinton Avenue in the borough of Tenafly, county of Bergen, extending in a general northerly direction, and ending at the New York state line in the vicinity of the borough of Northvale, county of Bergen, and

(2) The entire length of Rockleigh Road beginning at the road’s intersection with Piermont Road in the borough of Northvale, county of Bergen, extending in a general northerly direction, and ending at the New York state line in the vicinity of the borough of Rockleigh, county of Bergen; and

h. “Grand Avenue Scenic and Historic Highway,” which consists of the entire length of Grand Avenue beginning at the road’s intersection with East Palisade Avenue in the city of Englewood, Bergen County, extending in a general southerly direction, and ending at the intersection of Grand Avenue and Broad Avenue in the borough of Ridgefield, Bergen County.

C.27:5K-5 Signage permitted.

5. The department or any other public entity with jurisdiction over a roadway which has been designated for inclusion in the program may erect signs along the roadway indicating that it has been granted such a designation.

6. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 16, 2010.