New Jersey Law Revision Commission

153 Halsey Street, 7th Floor
Box 47016
Newark, New Jersey 07102
973-648-4575
Fax: 973-648-3123
Email: njlc@njrc.org
Website: www.njlrc.org

Who We Are

The New Jersey Law Revision Commission (NJLRC) is an independent Legislative commission responsible for conducting a continuous examination of the New Jersey statutes and the judicial decisions construing the statutes. The Commission is also instructed to carry on a continuous revision of the statutes to maintain them in revised, consolidated and simplified form. The NJLRC is called upon to act in cooperation with the Legislative Counsel in the Office of Legislative Services to effect improvements and modifications to the statutes. (N.J.S. 1:12A-8)

Goal: The clarification and simplification of New Jersey’s law, its better adaptation to present social needs, and the better administration of justice.

In order to do its work, the Commission is directed to receive and consider suggestions and recommendations from the American Law Institute, the Uniform Law Commission, “other learned bodies,” “judges, public officials, bar associations, members of the bar and from the public generally.” (N.J.S. 1:12A-8)

The NJLRC has nine Commissioners, including: the Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the Chair of the Assembly Judiciary Committee, representatives of New Jersey’s three law school campuses, and four New Jersey attorneys (two appointed by the President of the Senate and two by the Speaker of the General Assembly).

The NJLRC has seven Staff members, including a full-time Executive Director, one full-time Deputy Director, one full-time Counsel, one part-time Counsel, one Legislative Fellow, one Reviser of Statutes (Retired) and one part-time Executive Assistant. Law and undergraduate students provide additional legal research and drafting assistance.

What We Do

Over the course of any given year, the Commission will work on between 50 and 60+ projects in different areas of the law. The projects vary in size. Some recommend a change to a single sentence of a statute; others recommend changes to hundreds of pages of statutes.

Once the Commission approves work on a new project, Staff researches the law and reaches out to experts and to those with knowledge of the law and its impacts. The NJLRC may work on a number of successive drafts regarding a particular issue, in an effort to achieve consensus drafting. NJLRC work in an area generally concludes with the release of a Final Report and Recommendation to the Legislature suggesting a change to the body of statutes and the basis for that recommendation.

Our Role in the Legislative Process

The work of the Commission is complementary to that done by the Office of Legislative Services. Pursuant to its statutory mandate, the NJLRC works to bring issues to the attention of the Legislature that might not otherwise receive consideration.

The NJLRC tailors its research and outreach to the specific project or request, dedicating as much time as a given project requires.

As soon as the Commission begins work in an area, Staff identifies those who may wish to be heard on the subject and reaches out to those individuals and groups for comment.

The NJLRC serves the citizens of New Jersey and all branches of the State government by identifying areas of New Jersey law that can be improved by changes to the New Jersey statutes.

**Goal:** To enhance New Jersey’s long tradition of law revision and to support the Legislature in its efforts to improve the law in response to the existing and emerging needs of New Jersey citizens.

In keeping with its statutory mandate, the Commission is available to provide research and drafting assistance to any Legislator. The Commission is pleased to offer as much assistance in an area as is requested, including: preliminary research to develop the contours of a proposed bill; analysis of the approaches taken by other jurisdictions with regard to an issue; review of scholarly articles; identification of legislative trends; and seeking preliminary comments from experts or others knowledgeable about a given area. The resulting information will be provided to the Legislator in whatever format would be most useful.

The NJLRC was deliberately created by the Legislature to operate in a non-partisan manner.

The independence of the Commission reflects the wisdom of the Legislature in creating an entity that focuses exclusively on the goals of improving New Jersey’s law.

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**Recent Enactments Based on Our Work**
- Bulk Sale Notification Requirements (2017)
- Millers of Grain (2017)
- Overseas Residents Absentee Voting Law (2017)
- Pejorative Terms (2017)
- Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act (2017)
- Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (2016)
- Recording of Mortgages (2015)

**Bills Introduced in the Current Session Based – in Whole or in Part – on NJLRC Reports**
- (Effect of) Abstentions
- Adverse Possession
- Landlord-Tenant Law
- (Revised Uniform) Law on Notarial Acts
- Standard Form Contracts
- (Uniform) Voidable Transactions Act
- Bulk Sale Tax Notification
- (Uniform) Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act
- (Uniform) Foreign Country Money Judgment Recognition Act

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