

# ASSEMBLY, No. 4235

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

### 222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 19, 2026

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman CODY D. MILLER**

**District 4 (Atlantic, Camden and Gloucester)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires private detectives to register their foreign employers with State Police.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning licensed private detectives, amending  
2 P.L.1939, c.369, and supplementing Title 53 of the Revised  
3 Statutes.

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

7  
8 1. Section 5 of P.L.1939, c.369 (C.45:19-12) is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 5. The superintendent, when satisfied from the examination of  
11 any application and such further inquiry and investigations as he  
12 shall deem proper as to the good character, competency, and  
13 integrity of the applicant and the persons named in the application,  
14 shall issue and deliver to the applicant a license to conduct such  
15 business. **[Such]**

16 A licensee shall notify the State Police when employed by a  
17 foreign government or foreign national. This notification is in  
18 addition to any requirement under federal law regarding an  
19 individual operating at the direction of a foreign government. Upon  
20 issuance of a license, or a license renewal, the superintendent shall  
21 notify the licensee that the licensee is required to notify the State  
22 Police when employed by a foreign government or foreign national.

23 The licensee shall be permitted to own, conduct, and maintain  
24 one or more bureaus, agencies, subagencies, offices, or branch  
25 offices for the conduct of such business at the locations stated in  
26 said application, upon the payment by the applicant to the  
27 superintendent of a license fee for each location so licensed which  
28 in the case of an individual shall be \$250**[.00]**, and in the case of a  
29 firm, association, or corporation shall be \$300**[.00]**. Any license or  
30 renewal thereof shall be further conditioned upon the applicant  
31 executing and delivering to the superintendent a bond with a surety  
32 company authorized to be surety in the State of New Jersey, as  
33 surety, and approved as to form, manner of execution, and  
34 sufficiency by the superintendent of the State Police, running to the  
35 State of New Jersey and which shall be for the benefit of any  
36 person injured by willful, malicious, or wrongful act of the  
37 applicant (with a sufficient surety bond), which in the case of an  
38 individual shall be \$3,000**[.00]**, and in the case of a firm,  
39 association, or corporation \$5,000**[.00]**, which said bond shall be  
40 conditioned for the faithful and honest conduct of such business by  
41 the applicant. The license so granted by the superintendent shall be  
42 valid for a period of **[2]** two years, and upon renewal thereof said  
43 applicant shall pay to the superintendent in the case of an individual  
44 a license fee of \$200**[.00]** and in the case of a firm, association, or  
45 corporation \$250**[.00]** for each location for which such a license is

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 renewed. The license shall be revocable by the superintendent after  
2 hearing for cause. In case of revocation or surrender of any license,  
3 no refund shall be made of any license fee paid under the provisions  
4 hereof. The license shall be in a form to be prescribed by the  
5 superintendent and shall set forth the full name of the applicant, the  
6 location of the principal office or place of business, and the location  
7 of each bureau, agency, subagency, office, or branch office for  
8 which the license is issued, date on which it is issued, the date on  
9 which it will expire, and the name or names of the persons named  
10 in the application, and their respective addresses. In the event of  
11 any change in the membership of the firm or in the officers or  
12 directors of any association or corporation or any change in the  
13 address of any office or location of such business the  
14 superintendent shall be notified in writing of such change within  
15 **[5]** five days thereafter, and failure to give such notification shall  
16 be sufficient cause for revocation of such license.

17 No license shall be issued to a person under the age of 25 years,  
18 nor to any person, firm, association, or corporation unless such  
19 person or at least one member of the firm and one officer or director  
20 of the association or corporation has had at least **[5]** five years'  
21 experience as an investigator or as a police officer with an  
22 organized police department of the State or a county or municipality  
23 thereof, or with an investigative agency of the United States of  
24 America or any State, county, or municipality thereof.

25 The superintendent and all members of the State Police shall  
26 hold as confidential all information obtained as a result of any  
27 investigation of any applicant or officer, assistant, or employee of  
28 any holder of any license issued under the provisions of this act,  
29 and the same shall not be divulged except by an order **[so to do by]**  
30 of a court of record of this State.

31 (cf: P.L.1971, c.342, s.2)

32

33 2. (New Section) a. The Superintendent of State Police shall  
34 maintain a registry of private detectives licensed in this State  
35 pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1939, c.369 (C.45:19-12) who are  
36 employed by foreign nationals or foreign governments. The  
37 registry shall be available to only the Attorney General and  
38 members of the State Police.

39 b. The registry shall include:

- 40 (1) the name of the private investigator;
- 41 (2) the business name associated with the private investigator;
- 42 (3) the address at which the business is registered;
- 43 (4) the name and business name of the employer; and
- 44 (5) the address of the employer.

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46 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the sixth month  
47 next following enactment, except that the Superintendent of State

1 Police may take any anticipatory administrative action in advance  
2 as shall be necessary for the implementation of this act.

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STATEMENT

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7 This bill requires private detectives to register their foreign  
8 employers with the State Police.

9 Current federal law (18 U.S.C. s.951) requires any individual  
10 acting at the direction of a foreign government to notify the United  
11 States Attorney General. This bill also requires a licensed private  
12 detective to notify the State Police when employed by a foreign  
13 government or foreign national. This notification is in addition to  
14 any requirements under federal law.

15 Further, under the bill, upon issuance of a license or a license  
16 renewal, the Superintendent of State Police is required to notify the  
17 licensee that the licensee is required to notify the State Police when  
18 employed by a foreign government or foreign national.

19 Finally, the bill requires the State Police to maintain a registry of  
20 private detectives licensed in this State who are employed by  
21 foreign nationals or foreign governments. The registry is available  
22 only to the Attorney General and members of the State.