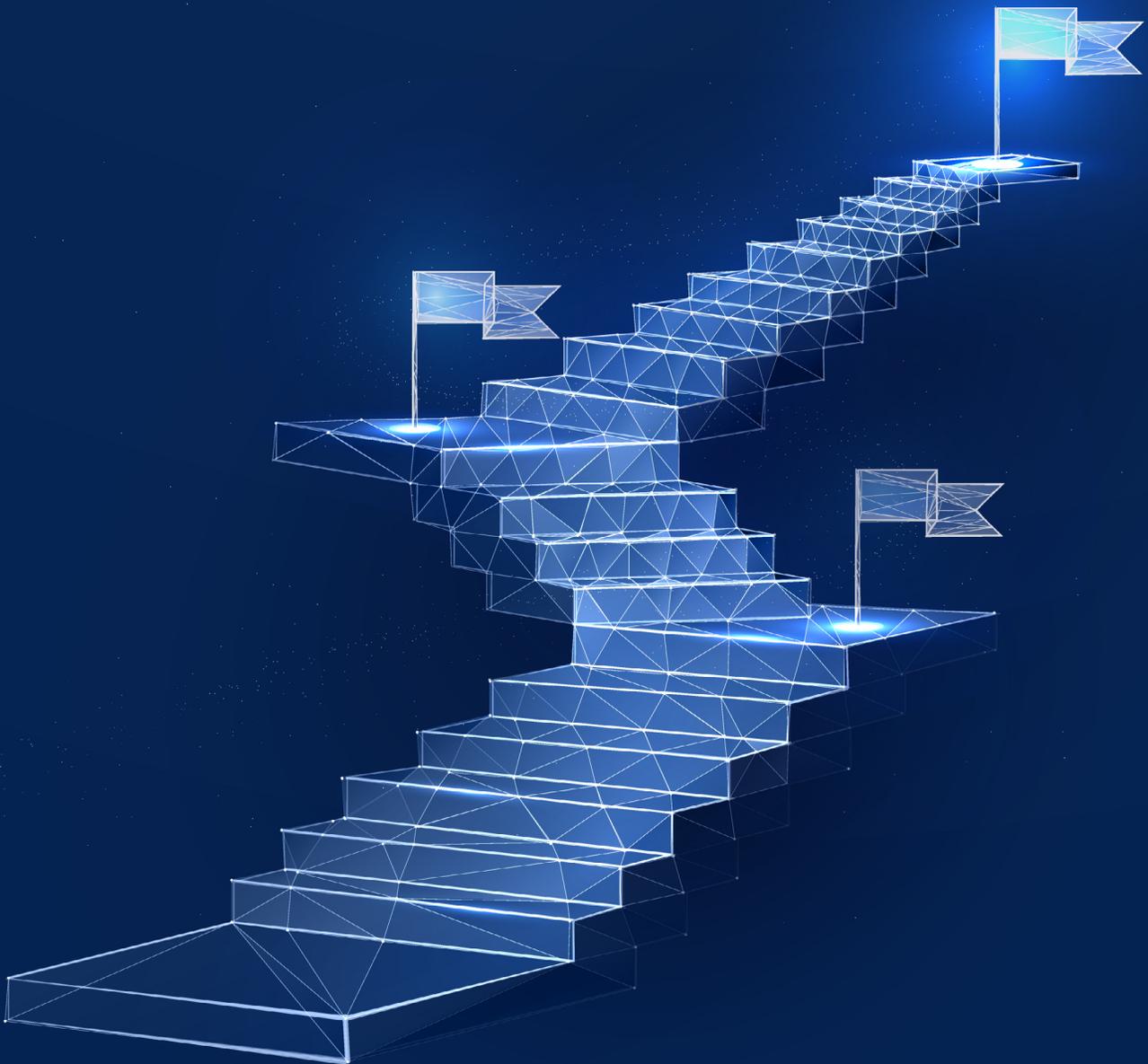


6 Recent NJ Laws & Resources for Municipalities

What New Jersey Local Government Leaders Need to Know

Comprehensive eBook for Municipal & County Officials

2023



The Operating System for Local Government

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Summary

As the regulatory landscape continues to evolve, it is crucial for local government departments and city leaders to stay informed about the latest legal developments that shape their communities. In this comprehensive guide, you'll delve into the ever-evolving world of laws and legislation that impact local governments in the state of New Jersey.

This resource aims to serve as a valuable resource, providing you with an overview of the most significant new laws, regulations, and legislative updates that affect local governance in New Jersey. From zoning ordinances to cyber attack reporting protocols, from liability insurance requirements to public safety measures, we explore a wide range of topics that impact the day-to-day operations of NJ local governments.

The goal is to help you navigate through the complexities of these legal frameworks, ensuring that you understand the implications and requirements of the latest legislation. You'll not only explore the legal aspects but also gain practical insights and recommendations for effective implementation and compliance in your locality using better workflows and government software.

Follow along as we dive into the intricacies of New Jersey's laws and legislation, empowering you to make informed decisions and proactively contribute to the growth and well-being of your local community. Let's embark on this journey together, unraveling the complexities of new laws and legislation for NJ local governments.



Chapter 1

NJ Infrastructure Bill Grant Funds for Local Government

“The need for action in New Jersey is clear and recently released state-level data demonstrates that the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will deliver for New Jersey. For decades, infrastructure in New Jersey has suffered from a systemic lack of investment.”

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will Deliver for New Jersey press release from the Biden White House sums it up perfectly; **NJ local governments are in a prime position to capitalize on infrastructure investments that are long overdue.**

As infrastructure grant funds continue to get dispersed across the United States, as a local government official in New Jersey, you're probably forging a [strategic plan for your municipality](#) and pondering the infrastructure development and maintenance projects your community needs most.

Explore this GovPilot guide to the NJ infrastructure bill for everything you need to know about where grant dollars are being allocated in the Garden State and ways your municipality can maximize every dollar.

How Much is New Jersey Receiving in Infrastructure Grant Funds?

Close to \$4.8 billion has been given to New Jersey in infrastructure bill grants since the passage of the [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) on November 15, 2023 by President Joe Biden with billions more set aside for roads, bridges, sustainable transit, high-speed [local broadband internet](#) and more in coming years.

[The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will Deliver for New Jersey press release](#) explained the desperate need

NJ has for modernizing infrastructure, “the American Society of Civil Engineers gave New Jersey a D+ grade on its infrastructure report card. The historic [infrastructure bill] will make life better for millions of New Jersey residents, create a generation of good-paying union jobs and [stimulate [local economic development](#)], and position the United States to win the 21st century.”

What Types of NJ Infrastructure Projects are Being Funded by the Bill?

Learn more about the specific types of infrastructure that the federal government has earmarked grant funds for New Jersey to invest in.

Roads & Bridges

The largest percentage of grants are dedicated to bridges and roads. “In New Jersey there are 502 bridges and over 3,995 miles of highway in poor condition. Since 2011, commute times have increased by 8.8% in New Jersey, and on average, each driver pays \$713 per year in costs due to driving on roads in need of repair. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act is the single largest dedicated bridge investment since the construction of the interstate highway system. Based on formula funding alone, New Jersey would expect to receive \$6.8 billion for federal-aid highway apportioned programs and \$1.1 billion for bridge replacement and repairs... over five years.”

Broadband Internet

In order to work-from-home, the office, or in the field, participate in childhood and collegiate education, and stay connected, New Jersey citizens need high-speed broadband internet to function in modern society.

“Under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, New Jersey will receive a minimum allocation of \$100 million to help provide broadband coverage across the state, including providing access to the at least 115,468 people in New Jersey who currently lack it. And, under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, 1,566,000 or 18% of people in New Jersey will be eligible for the Affordability Connectivity Benefit, which will help low-income families afford internet access.”



Why Does Your Municipality Need to Invest in Broadband Internet?

[Local Governments Need to Invest in Broadband Infrastructure](#). As remote work has NJ residents skipping the NYC commute to work from home or grow their own businesses, NJ [municipalities can drive revenue](#) by getting businesses to operate from their community.

Beyond the boost to your [local government budget](#), high-speed internet can improve your citizens' access to education, news, digital [municipal services](#), and job opportunities.

Your local government can improve workflows by making a [municipal digital transformation](#) to automate government tasks and [store government data](#) in the cloud.

[GovPilot's government software](#) offers intuitive digital solutions for [all local government departments](#). Learn more about [How Public Sector Software Helps Every Department](#).

Cyber Attacks

New Jersey is taking serious action to mitigate against data breaches, with 375 cyber attacks against NJ government entities in 2022 alone. Just as Phil Murphy passed the [New Jersey data breach notification law](#) requiring NJ governments to report attacks within 3 days of them being discovered, the federal government is encouraging municipalities to modernize their cybersecurity protocols too.

\$17 million is being provided to NJ state, county, and local governments in grant funds to implement [public sector cybersecurity best practices](#).

How Should Municipalities Invest in Cybersecurity?

Here are commonly cited ways for mitigating against [government cyber attacks](#):

- Use the [government cloud](#) to store data rather than antiquated physical servers that are easy to breach.
- Regularly back-up data to ensure retention of critical public sector data (GovPilot automatically backs up government wide data on a frequent basis)
- Educate [government workers with cybersecurity training](#) to prevent a hack due to human error.
- Invest in a [government disaster recovery strategy](#).
- Use encrypted data storage and messaging for [government communications](#).
- Perform vulnerability testing to make sure you meet federal and state cybersecurity regulations.

[GovPilot is proud to be partnered with Microsoft Azure](#) and is committed to providing cyber secure [cloud-based government technology](#). Explore [GovPilot's Security Overview](#) for more information.

Disaster Resilience

“From 2010 to 2020, New Jersey has experienced 23 extreme weather events, costing the state up to \$50 billion in damages. Under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act...New Jersey will expect to receive \$15 billion over five years to [protect against wildfires](#)... New Jerseyans will also benefit from the bill’s historic \$3.5 billion national investment in weatherization which will reduce energy costs for families.”

Learn more about prioritizing [disaster mitigation as a local government](#):

- [How to Build Disaster Resilient Infrastructure](#)
- [Winter Storm Mitigation & Disaster Planning Tips for Governments](#)
- [Landslide Mitigation & Disaster Planning Tips for Governments](#)
- [Flood Mitigation & Disaster Planning Tips for Governments](#)
- [Tornado Mitigation & Disaster Planning Tips for Governments](#)

Local Water Utilities Infrastructure

“New Jersey will expect to receive \$1 billion over five years to improve water infrastructure across the state and ensure that clean, safe drinking water is a right in all communities.”

Here are more [Tips for Governments to Protect Local Bodies of Water](#).

Airport Investment

“Airports in New Jersey [will] receive approximately \$272 million for infrastructure development for airports over five years”

How to Plan for Your Local NJ Infrastructure Projects

Here are important ways for your [local government to innovate](#) and expedite progress on infrastructure projects that matter most to your citizens.

1. Hear your citizens’ priorities with GovAlert

GovPilot’s [report-a-concern app GovAlert](#) is available for citizens of any community to report non-emergency issues digitally via their iPhone or Android. Once they download the application, they can report issues like potholes, litter, flooding, etc. and pinpoint them on a [GIS map](#) which is then submitted to the relevant government department and officials.

If you want to offer GovAlert as a feature of your government website, book a demo to become a GovPilot customer.

Collecting data on which infrastructure issues and projects matter most to your constituents will allow you to make more informed decisions about where to allocate NJ infrastructure grants.

**“GovPilot is a game changer!
Our response time is faster
and there are far fewer errors
in our workflows.”**

Darren Bryden, Chief Information Officer
Elizabeth, New Jersey

2. Digitize construction permitting

[Government construction software](#) allows for [digital construction permit](#) applications to be submitted and approved virtually.

Bureaucracy around print and license approvals is a key reason that many infrastructure projects are slow moving. By digitizing the process, approvals can happen much faster with digital applications rather than physical applications to get projects done on time (or ahead of schedule.)

All property records are stored in the cloud and accessible via the GIS map with GovPilot's [public records technology](#).

The state passed its [New Jersey Electronic Permitting Law](#) several years back requiring local governments to move construction permitting online. Learn more about [How Permitting Software Works](#).

3. Access property records with GIS mapping

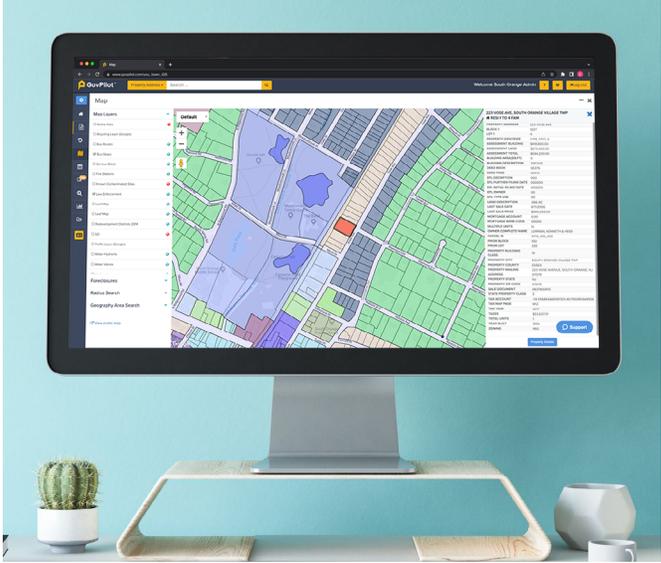
Every GovPilot customer gets access to a local GIS map. Keep track of maintenance history or specific properties and infrastructure directly from a 3D map of your community to determine which infrastructure is especially overdue for investment and maintenance.

Here are [All of the Ways Local Governments Need to Use GIS](#).

4. Forge a [local government supply chain strategy](#)

Here are ways to prioritize your municipal supply chain to ensure critical materials are arriving on time for infrastructure projects:

- Use [government vendor management software](#) to keep track of your private sector partners providing critical services and supplies



- Keep track of where your budget and grant funds are being allocated with [government procurement software](#)
- Use [government asset management software](#) to keep track of critical materials and products.

5. Inspect city wide infrastructure

Use [digital inspection software](#) like GovInspect to

- remind inspectors about critical infrastructure inspections with scheduled notifications
- record inspections from the field digitally via a government mobile device like a tablet.
- keep digital records about the status of key infrastructure when deciding which assets to prioritize / interest in.

Invest in Government Digital Transformation

The infrastructure bill can transform NJ municipalities for the better with physical and digital infrastructure investment funds. Get GovPilot [government software](#) as you upgrade your digital infrastructure with federal grants for high-speed Internet and cybersecurity, and leverage the government technology to expedite construction workflows on your physical infrastructure investments like roads and bridges.

To learn more about the benefits of government management software, book a free demo.

Chapter 2

IT Business and Technology Strategic Planning Requirements

New Jersey recently announced its 2023-2025 IT Business & Technology Plan with the goal of modernizing the state government's digital infrastructure using cloud data storage.

This extensive game plan proposes using the cloud for integrating state government data across agencies and providing a better, consistent user experience across government websites and applications.

But what specifically is in the NJ strategic IT plan? And what does it mean for local governments? While the document outlines requirements for state government entities specifically, the innovative government IT strategy laid out in the document boasts great recommendations for local governments in NJ (and any state) looking to take their antiquated computers systems to a modern standard.

Follow along for key takeaways from the NJ IT plan that can be applied within your locality for better data storage, digital citizen services, and online communications across departments utilizing [government software](#).

What is the NJ IT Business & Technology Plan?

The [NJ IT Business & Technology Plan](#) is a document released by the NJ Office of Information Technology in February 2023 with the goal of leveraging technological innovations to improve economic development, citizen engagement, and workforce performance through the modernization of technology systems across the state.

The plan calls for the analysis of data silos across state government agencies and action to break these silos down by universally moving to the [government cloud](#) and providing a common user experience on digital platforms across state departments. Governor Phil Murphy and the state Executive Branch are aiming to implement the goals laid out in the document by the end of 2025.

Follow along for specific takeaways from the document that can be applied in local governments for better workflows and organization.



NJ Office of Information Technology IT Business and Technology Strategic Plan

What Actionable Lessons Are Included in the NJ IT Plan?

NJ is utilizing this strategic plan to innovate with government technology. Problems that were exacerbated by the pandemic are now being addressed to provide better government services and keep critical data secure and accessible.

Here are the critical components of the plan that local governments can learn from:

1. Common User Experience

As explained in the GovTech article highlighting the plan, “the IT plan, in part, tackles issues stemming from pandemic response, when the state hurried to launch digital services to meet new needs and did not prioritize a common user experience.”

As citizens grow more accustomed to digital applications playing a role in their day-to-day lives like Uber, DoorDash, Venmo, etc. low-quality and dramatically differing government websites and apps can be confusing and frustrating for your citizens trying to submit applications, [pay government fees or fines](#), schedule inspections, and more.

GovPilot’s operating system for local governments offers 125+ modules across departments. If you opt to choose an unlimited plan for [government software in each department](#), the cloud-based system will house the entirety of a local government’s digital services like permit filing, [business registration](#), and [open records requests](#) from your government website (or individual department websites) with a universal user experience that is simple for citizen and government employee use.

Learn more about [How to Improve Your Government Website’s UX](#).

2. Prioritizing Government Data Analytics

The NJ IT document highlights, “to support our Governor’s initiatives it will require programs to normalize and modernize digital services, and to advance our use of data and analytics. These efforts will drive better decision making, and simplify business and resident experiences (including [digitization of government services](#)). To enable this, we must continue to build and provide secure, resilient technology infrastructure.”

By moving NJ state government departments to the cloud, data will be automatically collected in real time and made accessible to decision makers in simplified reports and dashboards.

Explore this chapter for more info about [How Modern Government Data Storage Works](#).

◆ How Can Local Governments Collect Helpful Data?

In addition to offering digital forms across departments, [local government software](#) is constantly collecting tangible data that is instantly accessible from the cloud. For decision makers like the [city administrator](#) and [public health director](#), this data can be utilized to validate hypotheses and make budgetary considerations in the future.

What application types are being filed in my department? How much revenue is being generated by application fees? Which neighborhoods are seeing [local economic development](#)? Which neighborhoods are having higher code enforcement violations? These are just some of many questions your local government can ask and find specific answers to.

Read on for more tips about [Setting and Tracking Local Government KPIs](#).



3. Breaking Down Data Silos

Traditional paper-based filing and on-site computer systems have prevented departments from sharing data with other departments, state and federal departments, and government contractors. Historically, this has resulted in data sharing silos that limit government communications and better decision-making across all government departments.

The NJ IT Business & Technology Plan prioritizes the usage of the government cloud for providing cyber secure access to critical data across government departments and private partners.

◆ How Can Local Governments Break Down Data Silos?

The local government cloud similarly grants access to pertinent information across [all municipal and county departments](#). Since applications like permits and licenses are uploaded online, relevant government officials have instant access to data the moment it is submitted.

Even with instant access, [GovPilot's usage of the Microsoft Azure cloud](#) ensures that your government data is cyber secure and can only be accessed by eligible parties. Learn more about local government cybersecurity:

- [Using Local Government Cybersecurity Tech to Prevent Ransomware Attacks](#)
- [Local Government Data Breach Prevention and Examples](#)
- [How to Train Government Officials on Cybersecurity Best Practices](#)

4. Self-Reporting of Tech Advancement Progress

Government agencies not only need to embrace digital transformation for time and money savings, but also need to keep track of and provide records of IT advancements for local, state, and federal government entities as well as citizens. The NJ Office of Information Technology expects self-reports from agencies during the following points of progress as they embrace cloud infrastructure and UX:

a. The digitization of resident experience

Keep track of progress towards a, “cohesive end-to-end digital experience accessible for residents across platforms (e.g., web, mobile, etc.)”

b. Improvement of data and analytics capabilities

Mark incremental progress until there is a reliance on ,”fewer data platforms; increased commonality & data sharing Mature data analytics capabilities (e.g., AI/ML) and data-backed decision making”

c. Reduction of technical debt through system modernization

Embrace, “modular, sequenced modernization of critical applications, [leverage] on-premise and cloud technologies.”

d. Make infrastructure more resilient, stable, and secure

Report on the following upgrades:

- “Infrastructure consolidation and hardware rationalization and modernization with cost efficient servers
- Increased automated in cloud and on-prem server provisioning
- Prioritized Enterprise architecture function early in process driving best practices and enterprise standards”

e. Enable technology collaboration & data sharing across government entities

“Best practice sharing, standardization, and capability building between OIT and [government agencies]”

◆ How Can Local Governments Agencies Improve Tech Reporting?

Lessons learned through embracing [government technology](#) in one government department can and should be applied to other departments and potentially the entire municipality or country.

When [onboarding government software](#) with a GovPilot onboarding specialist, your government leadership and employees will receive simple, easy-to-understand training alongside best practices documentation to make it easy to integrate into one or many departments. Your locality can use these resources, lessons learned through using the tech first hand, and insightful data analytics to integrate the same technology / workflows in other departments with ease.

Embracing Government Cloud Systems in New Jersey and Across America

The NJ Office of Information Technology has paved the way for New Jersey government entities to have some of the most advanced data storage, IT infrastructure, and digital citizen services in the entire United States.

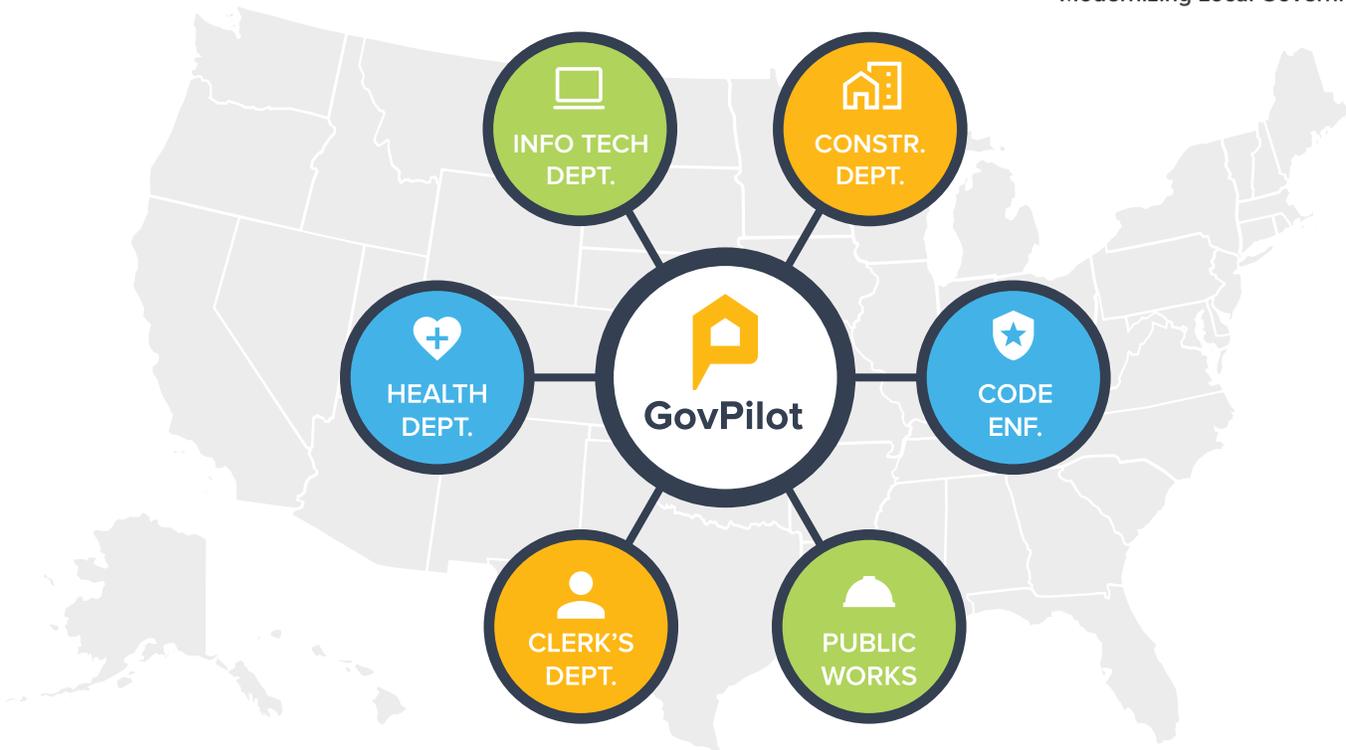
Local governments need to leverage cloud storage and government technology to save time and money with automated workflows and paperless data storage. To learn more about how to get started, book a free demo of GovPilot.

NJ IT & Business Plan FAQs

What is the NJ Information Technology Plan Released in 2023?

The NJ executive branch released its NJ IT & Business Plan in 2023 with the goal of making all state government agencies have cloud-based data storage in place by 2025. The other key requirement for government entities to meet is the optimization of UX on government websites and apps for a better citizen experience.





How Can Cloud Government Software Help Critical Departments?

Any government agency can benefit from moving away from paper and manual workflows. Here's specific benefits of cloud IT systems in critical departments:

▪ Clerk's Department

[Clerk's department software](#) allows for digital public record storage to be moved fully online. Historical records can be transferred from paper to a digital format and all application types, from permits to licenses, will be completed and stored in a fully online capacity moving forward.

▪ IT Department

[Government IT ticketing](#) can be a nightmare if completed manually. Requests coming through via email will pile up. With automated IT ticketing software, tickets will be automatically uploaded and timestamped to save time and [hold government officials accountable](#) in the IT department.

Here is more about [Forming a Modern Government IT Strategy](#) and [How to Recruit Government Tech Workers](#).

▪ Health Department

[Health department software](#) allows for simplified [public health data management](#) with cyber secure online storage.

▪ Construction Department

[Construction department software](#) stores all construction related documentation in the cloud and makes it easy for government officials and contractors to pull up full property records in seconds via a [3D GIS map](#) of your local community.

[Construction permits](#), licenses, etc. can all be applied for online and instantly accessible to relevant officials. [On-line inspection forms](#) can be completed via a [government mobile field device](#) as well.

▪ Code Enforcement Department

Code violations can be recorded while in the field and [government credit card processing services](#) even allow for fines to be issued on the spot.

Learn more about [Forming a Modern Local Code Enforcement Strategy](#).

Chapter 3

New Jersey Electronic Permitting Law

In June 2021, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy signed Assembly Bill 1145 into law which requires local governments in the Garden state to leverage a digital platform for all construction related applications and permits.

With the signing into law of the online “Electronic Permit Processing Review System” - P.L.2021, c.70 - municipalities and counties in New Jersey will need to adopt a digital platform in order to comply with upcoming Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) guidance.

While this is exciting news that will help NJ local governments save time and resources, this sudden change may be an intimidating adjustment for some municipal officials and workers accustomed to paper workflows. Fortunately, making the switch to online construction permitting is not as difficult as it may seem and can actually improve collaboration between departments. Follow along to learn more about the electronic permitting bill and how your local government can easily make the switch to a digital permitting system.

What is Assembly Bill 1145?

[Assembly Bill 1145](#), also known as the electronic permit bill, is legislation that was signed by NJ Governor Phil Murphy in June 2021.

The text of the bill requires that local governments in the state use an “Electronic Permit Processing Review System,” for filing any NJ construction and building permit forms. It is meant to spur innovation and increase quality of service, saving state municipalities a substantial amount of time and effort in the filing process by mandating a 24/7 online permitting process that is more convenient for constituents.

How Will the Electronic Permitting Bill Impact Your Local Government?

The text of the bill outlines the steps needed to be taken by local governments to make the switch to [construction permitting software](#).

Here are some of the key takeaways from Assembly Bill 1145:

1. NJ State Government Has Mandated the “Electronic Permit Processing Review System”

The text of the bill notes that, “The Commissioner of Community Affairs shall establish, develop, implement, and administer the ‘Electronic Permit Processing Review System.’” Essentially, this means local governments throughout the state will need to move fully online with their construction permitting processes related to , “submission of applications for construction permits, plans, and specifications.” This legislation also requires 24/7 access for constituents and businesses to file permit applications and schedule inspection requests.



2. Local Government Leadership Will Need Access to Digitized Permits

After your municipal leadership implements a digitized process for filing construction permits, you'll need to make sure that the right people have access to the documentation. Assembly Bill 1145 requires that , “the department... local enforcing agencies... and private agencies providing plan review and inspection services,” have electronic access to permits as well as relevant application materials.

3. Private Agencies Reviewing Permits Will Need to Abide by Assembly 1145

If your municipal government regularly works with private review and inspection services, they will need to follow the rules and policies outlined in the ‘Electronic Permit Processing Review System.’” This policy change will need to be communicated by your municipal government and be factored into the bidding process for permit inspection agencies.

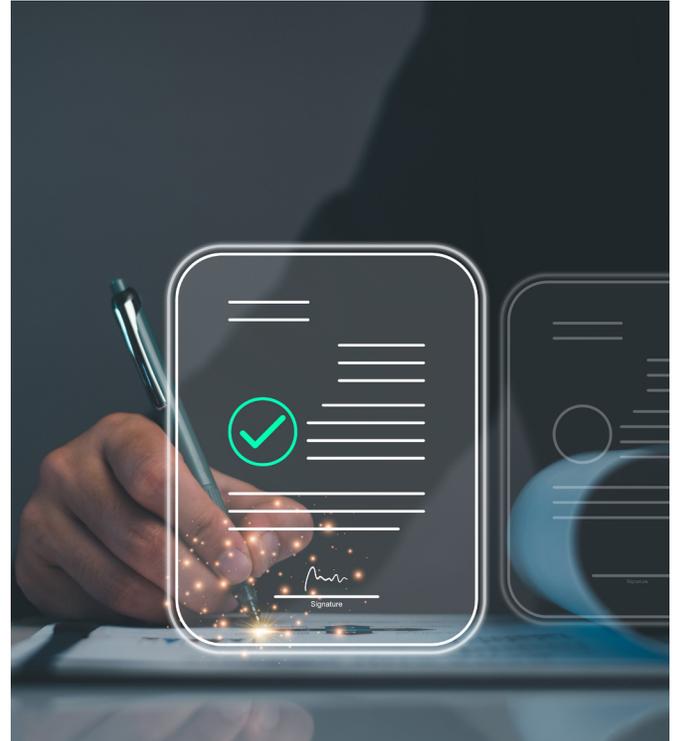
How Can Your Local Government Make the Switch to Web Based Permitting?

Leveraging cloud-based government management software is your best bet for building departments looking to make the switch from paper permitting forms to a digitized format.

Here are a few of the reasons that leveraging Construction Permitting software like GovPilot is the smartest approach to going digital and meeting the requirements of the new law:

Implementation is simple.

Change is oftentimes hard, but online permitting doesn't have to be. By implementing GovPilot, your government website will be set up to leverage the software for online permitting. Getting used to using the platform won't take long either, with government workers in a [Jackson, NJ government case study](#) noting that it took no more than a



single day to acclimate to GovPilot. With GovPilot's public facing digital application, contractors and homeowners alike will be able to access online permits in no time at all.

Save time and money.

New Jersey's electronic construction permitting bill was passed with the goal of increasing local [government innovation](#) and efficiency in order to save municipalities time and money, and improve customer service. In [Sea Girt, NJ, permit](#) application software led to an 80% faster entry rate into government systems and a massive decline in phone calls / correspondence with confused constituents due to the simple construction application process online. That means government workers can spend their time on higher priority tasks with the time they'll get back, saving your municipality money and improving your internal efficiency.

With GovPilot's updated digital construction module, inspection scheduling will be straightforward and fees can easily be configured.

Direct payment systems in place.

Online payments are built into the GovPilot system, meaning you'll be able to charge constituents directly from your government website whenever they file permits. With municipalities reporting significant increases in completed forms after switching to permitting software, online payments will also ensure that fees are paid instantly resulting in more dollars collected on time from permit filing.

Streamline the building permit process.

The NJ government will require that departments, local enforcing agencies, and private permitting inspectors have electronic access to permits and related materials. GovPilot's government management software makes it easy to share documents with all relevant parties across departments. GovPilot's cloud-based unified platform enables seamless access to documents and records at the parcel level so that department staff can collaborate easily, eliminate communications bottlenecks and manual data entry, and process applications faster.

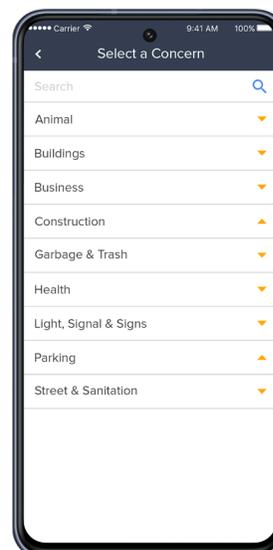
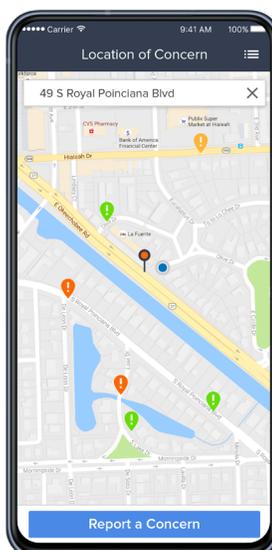
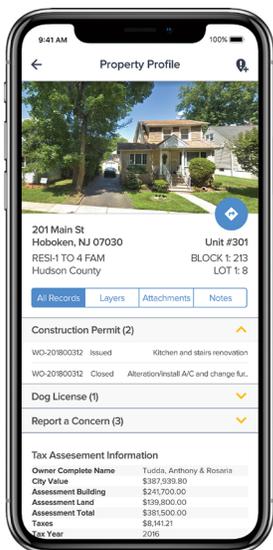
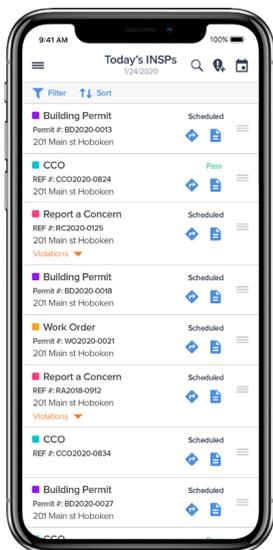
Automated email updates keep builders and citizens up to date on the status of applications in real-time.

Additional innovative local government software applications are also available.

With GovPilot, in addition to using the building and construction permitting software, you'll also be able to opt in to other useful tools and digital services for your local government. These solutions include [GIS mapping systems](#), [report-a-concern software](#), and [virtual business registration](#) and can revolutionize departments across your municipality, improving [civic engagement](#) and quality of life in your neighborhoods. With GovPilot, data and records across all departments are unified and easily accessible 24/7 from anywhere.

You'll also be able to utilize the permitting software for other relevant licenses and permits. The online permit software accommodates for [zoning permits](#), [parking permits](#) in addition to building permits for [plumbing](#), [fencing](#), electrical work, and more. GovPilot's mobile inspection app, [GovInspect](#) enables inspectors to eliminate paper processes and switch to a fully digital environment, saving them hours once dedicated to manual data entry.

Visit GovPilot's [Pricing Page](#) to learn more about solutions available and cost to your local government.



How Can Your Municipality Offset the Cost of Going Digital?

There are many ways to ensure that making the move to digitized building and construction permits won't have a large impact on your community's budget.

Hopefully, your municipality's stimulus funds from the [American Rescue Plan](#) have arrived. If not, they should be arriving soon. These funds are being sent to every municipality in the country and are meant to be used towards improving existing infrastructure. While this could be used towards physical infrastructure like [disaster resilient buildings](#) or paving roads, the funds can also be leveraged for improving and securing IT infrastructure. That means you're eligible to spend your ARP funds on the permitting software without taking money out of the existing budget.

The text of Assembly Bill 1145 also outlines details of how to alleviate the cost of transitioning to a digital, online environment. For the next few years, municipalities are eligible to charge a surcharge fee for construction permits. This fee is meant to reduce the overall cost of establishing the electronic permit processing review system. When selecting a digital construction permitting vendor, be sure that digital payment processing is enabled and capable of meeting your specific requirements.

Embracing Digital Construction Permitting

The New Jersey construction permit process will improve exponentially state-wide by ensuring that electronic permitting systems provide a convenient digital experience, secure data and records keeping, and streamlined processing. For the first time, many municipalities will be shifting away from paper permit applications, giving constituents and contractors the flexibility to file a permit application online with ease 24/7.

Now, your government leadership needs to iron out the details of your electronic permit processing review system by picking a permitting software platform and training government workers to use it effectively.

GovPilot recently launched an updated digital Construction Module which provides online applications, digital permitting, mobile tablet-based inspections, and scheduling.

Many New Jersey municipalities currently utilize or will soon deploy GovPilot's digital construction solutions including:

**Atlantic City | Elizabeth | Linwood | Manasquan
Montgomery | Orange | South Orange | Trenton | Union**

GovPilot will add any and all necessary capabilities as required by the DCA when guidance is issued. In the meantime, book a consultation to learn more about how GovPilot's online building and construction permit software can transform your permitting processes.

“This initiative is a game changer for city constituents on multiple levels. It makes city government more user-friendly, more convenient and more responsive to its residents.”

Darren Bryden, Chief Information Officer
Elizabeth, New Jersey

Assembly Bill 1145 FAQs

1. What is the NJ Construction Permit Bill?

The NJ electronic construction permit bill, officially known as Assembly Bill 1145, is a piece of legislation signed into law by Governor Phil Murphy in June 2021. The law will require local governments throughout the state to make a [digital transformation](#) with permitting software for all construction permits and related materials.

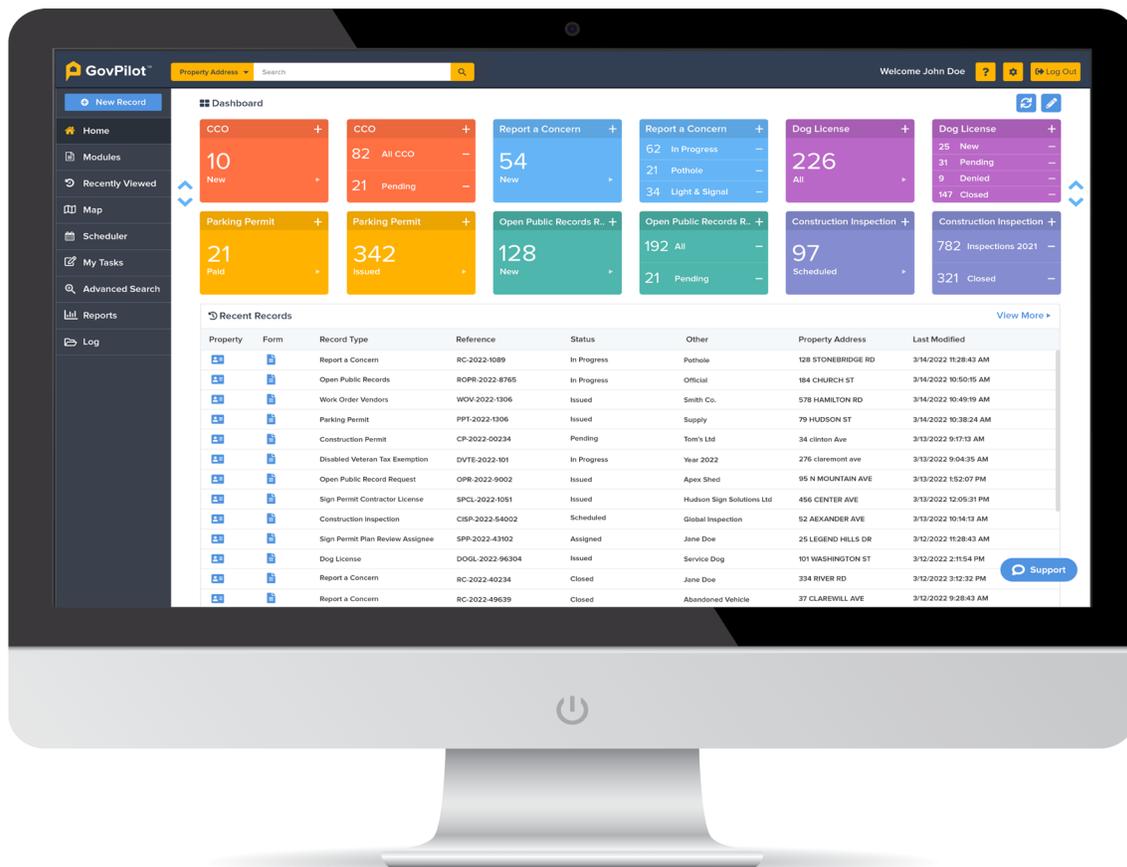
2. Why did the NJ State Government Mandate Digital Permitting Software?

There are undoubtedly a lot of benefits to using online permitting software as an alternative to paper. For one, constituents can fill out permits via local government websites at any time throughout the day. Additionally, cloud-based software means that anyone involved with the permit approval process can access relevant docu-

mentation from their personal computers. Software also collects insightful data, meaning you'll be able to notice trends and make governmental decisions with relevant information in mind.

3. How Can My Municipality Pay for Construction Permitting Software?

Municipalities in most cases will not need to pull money out of their allocated budgets to make the switch to digital. The state government is allowing local governments to charge a surcharge for the following three years to recuperate funds spent acquiring government management software. Additionally, federal funds from the American Rescue Plan can be used towards IT infrastructure, meaning that you'll be allowed to spend stimulus money on acquiring digitized permitting software as well as other government technologies.



Chapter 4

3-Day Cyber Incident Reporting Law: Everything to Know

With many local government entities continuing to rely on outdated computer systems and IT workflows, their easy susceptibility makes them a prime target for hackers to target with ransomware attacks. And if a hacker does manage to breach a local government's IT systems, it can result in the permanent loss of critical private data, pausing of government services for weeks, and burdensome costs to your tax payers to get your county or municipality running again.

With these frustrating realities in mind, it's no surprise that NJ governor Phil Murphy signed a new bill into law requiring state, county, and local government institutions, law enforcement, and public schools to report cyber attacks within 72 hours to the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness.

In this chapter, you'll come to understand the specific cyber incident reporting law and what it means for your local government, the rationale for passing this stringent cybersecurity legislation, and ways your locality can be proactive against cyber attacks with modern government data storage and software. Here's everything NJ governments need to know.

What is the NJ 72 Hour Cyber Reporting Law?

[Bill S297](#), also known as the NJ cybersecurity reporting law, was signed into law on March 13, 2023. Effective immediately, the legislation requires various public sector entities, and private sector government contractors, at the state, county, and local level to report data breaches within 72 hours of the incident. permitting process that is more convenient for constituents.



Institutions included in the bill's language include:

- State, county, and municipal governments
- K-12 public schools
- Public colleges and universities
- Law enforcement agencies
- Private sector contractors working with government data

What Does NJ Bill S297 Mean for NJ Cybersecurity Incident Reporting for Local Governments?

In the [New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness \(NJOHSP\) press release](#), Governor Murphy was quoted saying, "As we continue to face an evolving threat landscape, we must also adapt the mechanisms in place that safeguard our state, this legislation will bolster New Jersey's security by expediting cybersecurity incident reporting and increase our resilience through effective communication."

Here are key ways the legislation promotes these improved cybersecurity incident communication objectives between government departments and the NJOHSP:

72 Hour Reporting Requirement

When government entities such as [county and municipal agencies](#), public schools, or private government contractors are hacked, they are required to report the cyber attack incident within 72 hours to the NJ Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, effective immediately.

The Director of the NJOHSP Laurie Doran is currently developing reporting guidelines to, “connect the dots [between NJ government entities and the NJOHSP] allowing for effective collective incident response among all stakeholders.”

Get State Assistance Responding To Cyber Attacks

Modernizing [local government communications](#) with the NJOHSP and its [New Jersey Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Cell \(NJCCIC\)](#) will allow for “assistance to the affected public agencies to help them respond and recover from an attack. It also allows the NJCCIC to help prevent further compromises of public agencies by sharing the techniques, tactics and protocols the attackers used and the best practices to thwart them,” as stated by NJCCIC Director Michael Geraghty.

Federal assistance through grants can help too. Learn more about [Federal Cybersecurity Grants for Local Governments](#).

Improved Cyber Attack Data Collection

Last year, 375 incidents relating to government-related cyber incident reports were submitted to the NJCCIC. With better reporting processes, quick and consistent reporting will assist NJCCIC in expediting its response and

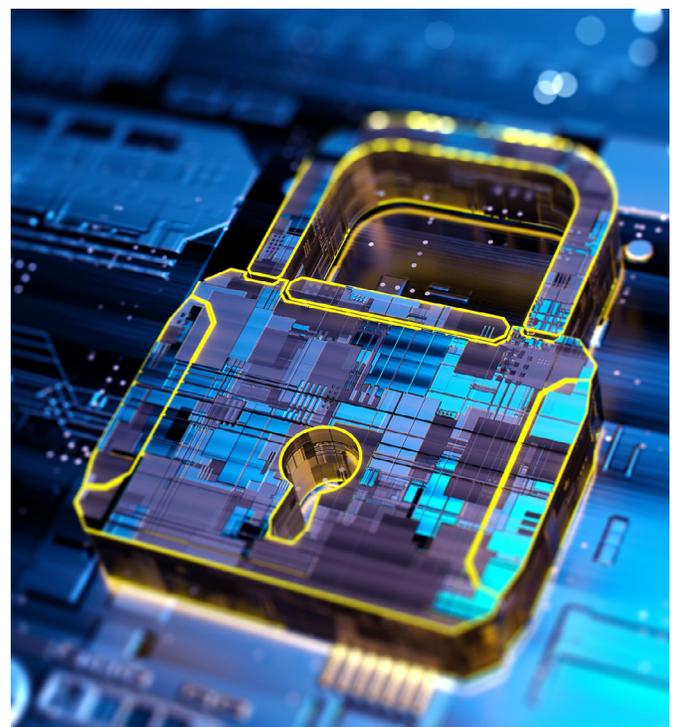
mitigating further incidents while improving its visibility and awareness of current hacking trends.

[How Does Government Analytics Help for Making Informed Decisions?](#) Here’s what to consider as a decision-making government leader.

Keep Critical NJ Government Data Safe

Assemblywoman Carol Murphy summed it up perfectly when she said, “as more of the work our governments do goes online, it is more important than ever to protect vital information and keep our state secure for all of our residents.”

[Local government software](#) can automate processes across departments, and is well worth the time and money savings compared to more traditional workflows. Better educational resources and state government intervention will ensure that counties and municipalities won’t be susceptible to attacks due to human error by embracing a [government digital transformation](#).



High-Standards for Private Government Contractors

Local governments can and should use [private-sector partners](#) to build and maintain local digital and physical infrastructure. And as New Jersey uses state and federal grants to modernize its infrastructure in partnership with government contractors, this legislation requires the same 72 hour incident reporting standards for private entities with access to critical government data.

Here's more insight into key grants allowing governments to modernize their public infrastructure using private contractors:

- [NJDOH Grants for Local Public Health Infrastructure](#)
- [What the 2021 US Infrastructure Bill Means for Local Governments Today & In the Future](#)
- [What is the American Rescue Plan? What It Means for Local Governments](#)
- [BEAD Broadband Infrastructure Grants for Improving Rural Internet Speeds](#)

How Can Local Governments Improve Cybersecurity

Clearly, the need for local governments to be proactive is evident in the Murphy administration's new policy. "In New Jersey alone, thousands of cybercrime cases occur each week, with our schools, hospitals and police departments among the entities most affected."

Consider these [government cybersecurity strategies](#) for keeping data secure and preventing hacks due to human error:

1. Choose a Trusted Government Software Partner

Cloud-based government software like GovPilot can keep data secure by performing regular data-backups, requiring multi-login steps for access to sensitive data, and embracing other key cybersecurity best practices.



GovPilot offers [software solutions across departments](#) to allow for government IT teams to keep government-wide data secure within one trusted cloud platform, and recently brought [GovPilot to the Microsoft Azure Cloud for Enhanced Cybersecurity](#).

Learn more about [Why the Cloud is More Secure for Local Governments Than Traditional In-House Servers](#).

2. Educate on Phishing Scams and Other Hacking Tactics

Local government officials often fall susceptible to ransomware attacks due to human error. Ask about tech knowledge in your [local government recruitment](#) process to actively find tech-savvy candidates. Make sure that newly onboarded government officials are educated on cybersecurity best practices for governments, and that government-wide staff receive ongoing training on a regular basis.

Be proactive. Here are [Cybersecurity Training Necessities for Teaching Government Workers](#) and [Tips for Hiring Tech Workers in Local Governments](#).



3. Prioritize Your Local Government IT Department

[City managers and administrators](#) as well as department leaders need to allocate government budgets towards addressing modern [local government challenges](#), with cybersecurity posing an evolving and increasingly problematic issue for the public sector that only information technology support can address.

A [modern local government IT strategy](#) will involve hiring officials that not only recognize cybersecurity threats to mitigate against across departments, but additionally staying in tune to the ever-evolving challenges as hackers find new sophisticated tactics to breach [public-sector data centers](#).

Embracing better IT infrastructure needs to happen now, as many current NJ laws are pushing local governments towards modern digital infrastructure: Learn more about government technology focused legislation in New Jersey:

- [NJ Electronic Construction Permitting Law](#)
- [NJ 3-Day Affordable Housing Inspection Requirements](#)
- [NJ Lead-Paint Laws for Local Governments to Enforce](#)
- [NJ Certificate of Liability Insurance Data Storage Requirements for Local Governments](#)

4. Learn From [Government Data Breach Examples](#)

International, federal, state, and local government entities across department-types have fallen victim to major data breaches that have halted government progress and resulted in the permanent loss of sensitive data.

Pay attention to hacks that occur nationwide to learn from others' mistakes, and be sure to stay informed from the NJCCIC for lessons as incident reports continue to roll in about NJ specific cyber attacks.

5. Switch to a [.Gov Government Website](#)

.Gov websites are more cyber secure than .com or .net domain names that many local governments continue to rely on. Make the switch to a .gov site as soon as possible, and optimize your government website to allow for [online permitting](#) applications, [digital government fee and fine collection](#), etc. for a better citizen experience while you're at it.

Here's [How to Modernize a Government Website for SEO, UX, & More](#) and other [Keys for Local Government Innovation](#).

Better NJ Cyber Incident Reporting

The state of New Jersey is taking a proactive approach towards public sector cybersecurity protocol by following other states and requiring public entities to report cyber breaches to the NJOHSP within 72 hours or less.

In doing so, the state can streamline cybersecurity communications, collect tangible data about the types of hacks occurring, and provide assistance to government agencies in getting breaches addressed.

Embracing government software is a modern way to keep data safe and secure. To learn how GovPilot can help, book a free demo.

NJ Cyber Attack Reporting Law FAQs

What is NJ Bill S297?

NJ Bill S297, known as the NJ 3-day cyber incident reporting law, put new requirements into place for government entities, as well as private government contractors, to report data breaches to the New Jersey Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Cell (NJCCIC) within 72 hours of an incident occurring.

The bill that was signed into law on March 13, 2023 is meant to improve cybersecurity communications between the states' government entities, and to collect insightful data about how government departments are being breached to mitigate the risk of similar attacks in the future.

Why Did the NJ State Government Vote to Pass a 3-Day Cyber Incident Reporting Law?

With 375 reports of NJ government data breaches in 2022, the state is prioritizing better reporting in the future. Assemblywoman Carol Murphy was quoted saying, "It is critical that cybersecurity incidents are reported.

This information will allow the State to better assess cyber attacks and be prepared."

Why Do Local Governments Need to Care About Cybersecurity?

As more local governments move away from paper-based filing and store sensitive data online, they owe it to their citizens to keep private data secure. Additionally, hacks can often freeze government services for weeks on end, preventing your public workers from accomplishing the day to day objectives that keep your community functioning.

Modern [government technology](#) can move your sensitive information online without sacrificing data security. Learn more about [How Onboarding Government Software Works](#).

How Do Governments Get Hacked?

Hackers often look for governments to hack due to their reliance on outdated computer systems that are easy to break into. Additionally, breaches due to human error occur as a result of phishing scams, weak passwords, and downloads with malware.



Chapter 5

3-Day Affordable Housing Inspection Law

New Jersey recently passed new legislation to expedite construction processes by codifying a 3 business day turnaround for inspections of affordable housing construction sites when an inspection is requested by the developer.

For many municipal & county construction department leaders, the thought of turning these inspections around quickly might sound challenging or downright impossible given your current inspection turnaround times.

In this guide, we'll highlight the key attributes of NJ Bill A573 and explain how government technology and private sector partnerships can modernize your construction inspection workflows for affordable housing and beyond.

What is NJ Bill A573?

[NJ Bill A573](#) is 2023 legislation signed into law in January that is meant to expedite the amount of time it takes for local governments to inspect construction sites. The policy requires local government officials (or a private-sector inspector) to inspect an affordable housing construction project within 3 days of an inspection request.

The bill is focused on improving on existing slow-moving bureaucratic construction workflows in the Garden State. Read on for more specific insight into the new affordable housing inspection requirements.

What Policies Signed Into Law in NJ Bill A573 Pertain to Local Governments?

The 3-day affordable housing inspection bill [press release](#) perfectly sums up that the new legislation is meant to, “cut through bureaucratic red tape and expedite important inspections which will help spur [\[local economic development\]](#).”

Here is how Bill A573 modernizes New Jersey construction inspections for affordable housing with updates to the state's [Uniform Construction Code \(UCC\) Act](#):

3-Day Inspection Requirement

In order to expedite the construction process for crucial affordable housing for low-income residents across the state, the new update to the UCC specifies that, “a three-day construction inspection turnaround [is required] from the date of the requested inspection and allows for developers to contract with private on-site inspection agencies if local construction officials cannot complete the inspection within three days of the requested date.”

More specifically, here are the requirements for construction developers and the relevant [government agencies](#) to consider directly from the bill:

“The owner, agent, or other responsible person in charge of work shall notify the enforcing agency when the work is ready for any required inspection under the code. This notice shall be given in writing at least 24 hours prior to the date and time requested for the inspection. The enforcing agency shall perform an inspection within three business days of the date for which the inspection is requested.”

Here are [Building Inspection Tips for Local Governments](#) to consider.



Support in Modernizing Government Construction Inspection Processes

The state government recognizes that local governments have antiquated inspection processes that will be challenging to overcome overnight, and requires [local governments to strategically plan](#) around how they'll complete inspections within three business days (or recruit [private-sector partners](#) to do so.)

“The bill... provides local governments with several avenues to improve their ability to conduct inspections in a timely manner, including a more streamlined bidding process to contract with private inspection agencies to conduct inspections for them or enter into shared services agreements to consolidate work among multiple municipalities.”

Your county / municipality can release requests for proposal and hire private inspection firms for your local government (or hire one inspector collectively with one contract for your community and other neighboring local governments.)

Here are the specific ways your local government can go about hiring a private-sector partner. “The rules and regulations shall allow an enforcing agency to:

1. enter into supplemental shared service agreements or contracts with a supplemental private on-site inspection agency to conduct on-site inspections for the purpose of meeting all required inspection timeframes;
2. enter into agreements with private on-site inspection agencies to conduct on-site inspections on a project-specific basis; and
3. authorize the owner, agent, or other authorized person in charge of work to directly contract with an authorized private on site inspection agency to perform all inspections on a project specific basis.”

Penalties for Not Hitting Affordable Housing Inspection Deadlines

As more local governments move away from paper-based The NJ Department of Community Affairs is now required, “to monitor the compliance of local enforcing agencies with 14 the provisions of the ‘State Uniform Construction Code Act,’ P.L.1975, c.217 (C.52:27D-119 et seq.), to order corrective action, or issue penalties, as may be necessary where a local enforcing agency is found to be failing to carry out its responsibilities under that act, to supplant or replace the local enforcing agency for a specific project, and to order it dissolved and replaced by the department where the local enforcing agency repeatedly or habitually fails to enforce the provisions of the ‘State Uniform Construction Code Act.’ This shall include the power to compel an enforcing agency to, within 15 business days, notify the department of any instance where the enforcing agency is unable to meet a deadline or other obligation imposed by law or regulation, and the power to order corrective action or issue penalties as may be necessary where an enforcing agency is unable to meet its obligations.”

Development Grants Awarded to 17 Affordable Housing Construction Projects

17 development projects received \$19 million worth of grants for 79 units across the state for Affordable Housing Trust Fund Awards, HOME Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO) Program, National Housing Trust Fund (HTF) projects. The full set of projects, developers, and the communities they've been approved in can be seen in the [Office of the Governor Press Release](#) about Bill A573.

The state also recently approved grants for the local public health departments. Learn more in the [NJDOH Local Public Health Grants](#) guide.

How Government Technology Can Modernize Construction Inspection Processes

[Government construction inspections](#) can run significantly more smoothly with [municipal construction software](#). Here are some of the many benefits to making a digital transformation for building processes:

1. Digital Inspection Requests

Your local government has a 3 business day turnaround time for responding to affordable housing construction requests. Make your [government scheduling](#) processes substantially more efficient by moving inspection requests to your government website. Developers can quickly submit a request online and submit the required paperwork, and relevant government inspectors (or private inspection partners) will be automatically notified that an inspection is needed at a development project within your community.

Learn more about how forms and inspection requests work on an [SEO / UX Optimized Government Website](#).

2. Online Bidding for Outsourcing Inspections

The bill clearly pushes local governments to outsource affordable housing construction inspections if they're unable to make the 3-day turnaround times work with current constraints in their inspection processes. Your local government can publicly release requests for proposal (RFPs) via your government website, submit notifications to saved contacts from the private-sector inspection space, and receive bid submissions virtually. When your locality (and potentially other local governments you partnered with) select your ideal partner, you can submit a bid approval online to notify your partner of choice.

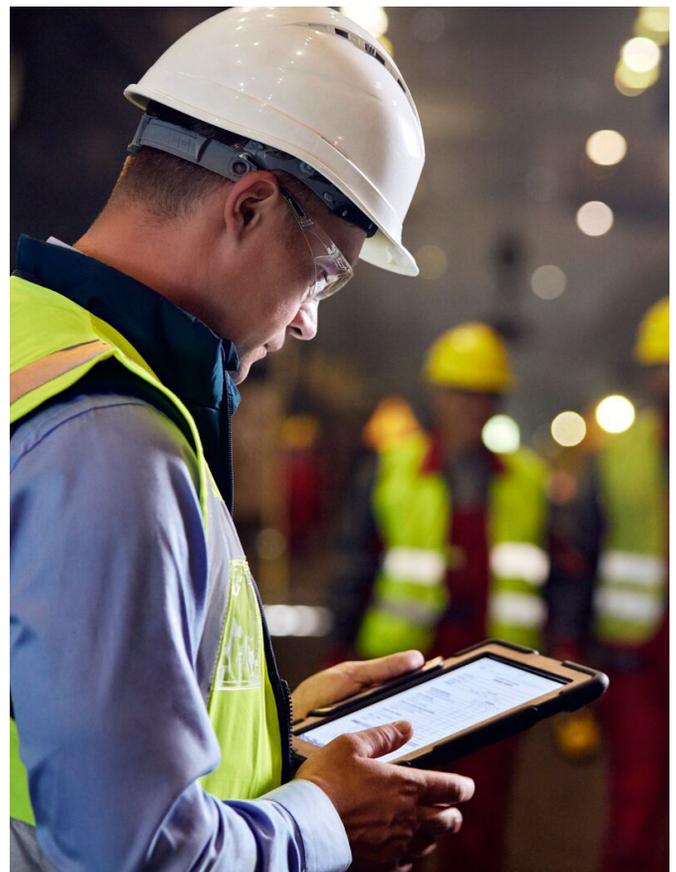
3. Digital Inspection Forms

To expedite the time it takes to complete an inspection,

your local government can use the [GovInspect digital inspection platform](#) to document findings from your affordable housing inspections (and any inspection-type) virtually with customized inspection forms on a [government tablet or phone](#).

Upon completion of the inspection, the documentation will be automatically stored in the [government cloud](#) and accessible to all relevant construction department employees. Whether the developer passed or failed the inspection, they can be virtually notified.

Other government inspections can be moved to government field devices too. Learn more about [Retail Food Establishment Inspections](#) and [NJ Lead Paint Inspection Requirements](#) for insight into how GovInspect can be customized to support various inspection-types across departments.



4. Cloud Storage of All Construction Records

Affordable housing inspection forms and all other construction document types can be virtually stored in the cloud for increased accessibility and cybersecure data back-ups. Whenever documentation is submitted by a government employee, private-sector partner, or developer, it will automatically be added to cloud, and can be found alongside all other property records for the site at hand via the [local GIS map](#).

Learn more about the [Benefits of Digital Public Record Management Technology](#) and [How to Keep Government Data Cybersecure](#).

5. Online Permit Applications and Approvals

Developers need to go through inspection processes to get permits for the affordable housing being constructed. The [NJ Electronic Permit Inspection Law](#) requires local governments to move their permitting processes to a digital capacity. [Online construction permitting](#) is another key feature of GovPilot's construction software, meaning you can move all of your government processes pertaining to inspections, permitting, and beyond within one [government software onboarding](#) project.

Read on for more insight into [How Digital Government Permitting Software Works](#).

Turning Affordable Housing Inspections Around in 3 Days

The NJ state government expects local governments to modernize their affordable housing inspection processes to stop the bureaucratic delays of critical housing projects that limit housing availability for low-income state residents and defer local economic development benefits that come with making more housing available.

Fortunately, local governments can abide by the new 3-day inspection turnaround times by modernizing inspection workflows with [government software](#) and recruiting private sector inspectors to complete inspections quickly.

To learn more about how GovPilot can digitally transform your construction department, book a free demo.

NJ Bill A573 FAQs

Why Did NJ Move to Improve Affordable Housing Inspections?

Phil Murphy signed the bill into law due to a recognition that slow-moving government inspection processes can delay the completion date for key affordable housing development projects; delaying access to critically needed housing and preventing [local population growth](#) from stimulating the municipal, county, and state economies.

What Can Local Governments Gain From Moving Construction Department Processes to a Digital Capacity?

Local government software can streamline government construction processes via [public-sector digital transformation](#) that poses the following benefits:

- Online permit and licensing applications and inspection requests along with online [government fee processing](#).
- Mobile forms for inspectors to fill-in in the field.
- Online bidding for private-sector inspection partners and other construction contractors.
- Cloud-based storage of all property records across the community.
- Instant property record access directly from an intuitive 3D GIS map.

Chapter 6

Certificate of Liability Insurance Management Requirements for Local Governments

The NJ state legislature recently took action to pass NJ law S1368, which requires all business and multifamily rental unit owners to maintain and show proof of certain levels of liability insurance. The new law also requires that businesses and multi-family home owners annually register a certificate of insurance with the municipality in which the business or rental unit is located.

As a local government official, you may be wondering why this law was passed, and what processes you'll need to have in place given these new requirements for local businesses. Read on for everything you need to know about the NJ certificate of liability insurance law.

What is the NJ Liability Insurance Law That Passed in 2022?

[NJ Law S1368](#) is a state law that passed on August 5, 2022 that requires local businesses and multifamily property owners to maintain certain levels of liability insurance and provide proof of said insurance to their local government.

The bill text requires, “the owner of a business or the owner of a rental unit or units [to] maintain liability insurance for negligent acts and omissions in an amount of no less than

\$500,000 for combined property damage and bodily injury to or death of one or more persons in any one accident or occurrence.

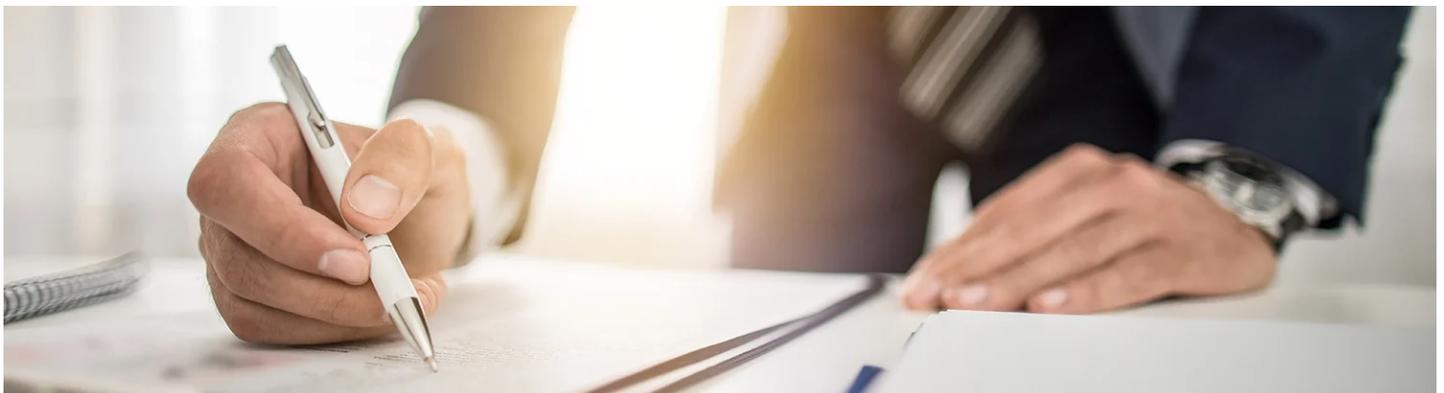
Why Was Law S1368 Enacted in New Jersey?

Accidents happen, and liability insurance is critical to ensure that victims are compensated for injuries or damages and that a business or property owner isn't forced to pay out-of-pocket or face a lawsuit when an incident occurs.

The policy is meant to encourage business and property owners to be proactive instead of reactive. Additionally, the law puts pressure on local governments to hold business and property owners accountable with the annual collection of certificate of liability insurance policies. :

What Does Your Local Government Need to Know About NJ Law S1368?

Your municipal government needs to make sure that local businesses and property owners are aware of the new liability insurance requirements, and that you have a plan in place for certificate of liability insurance collection. Here's what you need to know:



◆ Who's required (and exempt) from having liability insurance?

The NJ law requires all business owners and owners of rental unit(s) to have liability insurance with \$500,000 as the minimum coverage requirement and to provide their local governments with certificates of liability insurance. The only exception is for, “the owner of a multifamily home which is four or fewer units, one of which is owner-occupied...” which only has to have \$300,000 worth of coverage.

◆ When does this policy apply to business and property owners?

The act was set to take effect 90 days after its enactment. Since the law passed on August 5, 2022, the policy became official on November 3, 2022 and applies, “to policies issued or renewed on or after the effective date.”

◆ What does the new law require of local governments?

Municipal governments are integral to holding business and property owners accountable for acquiring liability insurance and providing your government with proof of their coverage. Your municipality will need to:

- **educate business owners and property owners of the policy changes:** now that the law is official, make sure that required parties are informed of the policy and know how to submit proof of insurance.
- **collect certificates of liability insurance:** your local government needs to collect documents showing proof of liability insurance. Consider offering online forms so that business and multifamily property owners can submit their annual records from your [government website](#).

- **store certificates of liability insurance:** as reports are filed annually, your locality will need to store the records in an organized fashion for future reference. If your local government is using government software, you can store these records in the GovCloud.
- **enforcement of law S1368:** your local government can issue fines between \$500 and \$5,000 dollars to businesses and property owners that don't acquire the required insurance and / or fail to submit their certificate of liability insurance. If your locality chooses not to pursue the enforcement of this policy, then the state Division of Local Government Services will do so to businesses within your jurisdiction.



◆ Can your government collect fees for certificate of liability insurance form submissions?

Since the form collection requirement adds an additional workload to your clerk's department officials, the state law allows local governments to, “establish a reasonable administrative fee for the certificate of [liability insurance] registration.”

Learn more about how to collect fees [online with the guide to Local Government Fee & Fine Processing](#).

How Can Government Technology Help With Enforcement of This Law?

GovPilot [government software](#) allows businesses and homeowners to file their annual certificate of liability insurance documents online. The benefits this certificate collection approach include:

- simple online applications that can be submitted anytime, anywhere from a laptop or cell phone (instead of in-person at a government building)
- integration with credit card processing businesses for easy fee collection from your government website.
- automation of the application process saves government administrative officials time that would have previously been allocated to helping people submit their liability insurance forms (and other application types) in person.
- automatic storage of certificates of liability insurance in the government cloud. These documents are made instantly available to all government officials in just a few clicks, and are regularly backed-up.
- easy access to property insurance records (and all other relevant property and business records) can be pulled up for any property in your jurisdiction via a [3D GIS map](#).
- notifications can be automatically sent to all relevant property and business owners to remind them of their annual filing requirement for proof of liability insurance.

To learn how GovPilot can improve workflows related to law S1368 and beyond, schedule a free demo.

Learn more about how GovPilot helped NJ governments embrace a [digital transformation](#):

- [How Jackson, NJ Went Fully Digital with GovPilot](#)
- [Streamlining Lodi, NJ's CCO Collection Process](#)
- [How Trenton, NJ Used GovPilot to Raise Millions in an Online Real Estate Auction](#)
- [How Sea Girt, NJ Handles Citizen Complaint Management & Inspections Online](#)

NJ Liability Insurance Law FAQs

What is NJ Law S1368?

NJ law S1368 is legislation passed in 2022 that requires business owners and multi family property owners to acquire liability insurance and to provide their local government with a certificate of insurance annually.

What Government Software Can Help With Liability Insurance Collection?

NJ local governments were recently instructed to offer electronic permitting applications via their government website to streamline filing and approval processes via the cloud. Luckily, this same government technology can be used to allow business and property owners to file their certificate of liability insurance with just a few clicks. With GovPilot, you'll simply have to select the insurance form application as a module and the application will be quickly made accessible from your site.

Do you need to pull up certificates of insurance records for a particular business or property in your community? GIS mapping technology allows you to find certificates of liability insurance and all other forms filed for a property instantaneously.

Why Do NJ Businesses and Rental Properties Need Liability Insurance?

Liability insurance is critical to ensure that in the wake of an accident on a business or property owner's premises, both the property owner and victim are covered. The law ensures that business owners won't have to pay out of pocket in the wake of an accident.

Does Your Local Government Need to Enforce Law S1368?

The law gives local governments the option to enforce S1368 by issuing fines between \$500 and \$5000 dollars. If your local government decides not to hold businesses and property owners within your jurisdiction accountable directly, the state government will handle the issuance of penalties within your community. .

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GovPilot - named a GovTech 100 company for six consecutive years - is the leader in digital transformation for local governments. GovPilot's cloud-based platform was built with the sole purpose of enabling local governments to operate at their full potential by standardizing, digitizing, and unifying more than 100 operational and constituent service processes on one system.

To learn more visit www.govpilot.com. Follow @GovPilot on LinkedIn and Twitter.

