

[Second Reprint]
ASSEMBLY, No. 1

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 18, 2023

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District 11 (Monmouth)

Senator JOSEPH A. LAGANA

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Assemblywoman Speight, Assemblyman Daniels, Assemblywoman
Pintor Marin and Senator Greenstein**

SYNOPSIS

Establishes Stay NJ property tax credit program; establishes Stay NJ Task Force; expands income limit and modifies ownership requirement for eligibility to receive homestead property tax reimbursement; enhances ANCHOR benefits for seniors; and makes appropriations.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Budget Committee on June 28, 2023, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2023)

AN ACT providing a property tax credit of up to one-half of property taxes due for primary residences of senior citizens in the State, ¹expanding eligibility for the homestead property tax reimbursement program, ²establishing a senior property tax relief task force, ² supplementing chapter 4 of Title 54 of the Revised Statutes, amending P.L.1997, c.348, ²and P.L.1990, c.61, ² and making ²**[an appropriation]** appropriations².

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

1. (New section) This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Stay NJ Act."

2. (New section) As used in this act:

"Condominium" means the form of real property ownership provided for under the "Condominium Act," P.L.1969, c.257 (C.46:8B-1 et seq.).

"Cooperative" means a housing corporation or association which entitles the holder of a share or membership interest thereof to possess and occupy for dwelling purposes a house, apartment or other unit of housing owned or leased by the corporation or association, or to lease or purchase a unit of housing constructed or to be constructed by the corporation or association.

²**[“Director”]** “Director”² means the Director of the Division of Taxation in the Department of the Treasury.

"Dwelling house" means any residential property assessed as real property which consists of not more than four units, of which not more than one may be used for commercial purposes, but shall not include a unit in a condominium, cooperative, horizontal property regime or mutual housing corporation.

"Eligible claimant" means an individual who is 65 or more years of age ²**[and]** is² the owner of a homestead in this State on or after July 1, 2024, ²**[without regard to]** and has gross² income ²for the prior year that is less than \$500,000².

²"Gross income" means all New Jersey gross income required to be reported pursuant to the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., other than income excludable from the gross income tax return, but before reduction thereof by any applicable exemptions, deductions and credits, received during the taxable year by the owner or residential shareholder in, or lessee of, a homestead.²

"Homestead" means:

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly ASE committee amendments adopted June 8, 2023.

²Assembly ABU committee amendments adopted June 28, 2023.

1 a. a dwelling house and the land on which that dwelling house is
2 located which constitutes the place of the eligible claimant's
3 domicile and is owned and used by the eligible claimant as the
4 eligible claimant's principal residence;

5 b. a condominium unit or a unit in a horizontal property regime
6 or a continuing care retirement community which constitutes the
7 place of the eligible claimant's domicile and is owned and used by
8 the eligible claimant as the eligible claimant's principal residence.

9 In addition to the generally accepted meaning of "owned" or
10 "ownership," a homestead shall be deemed to be owned by a person
11 if that person is a tenant for life or a tenant under a lease for 99
12 years or more, is entitled to and actually takes possession of the
13 homestead under an executory contract for the sale thereof or under
14 an agreement with a lending institution which holds title as security
15 for a loan, or is a resident of a continuing care retirement
16 community pursuant to a contract for continuing care for the life of
17 that person which requires the resident to bear, separately from any
18 other charges, the proportionate share of property taxes attributable
19 to the unit that the resident occupies; or

20 c. a unit in a cooperative or mutual housing corporation which
21 constitutes the place of domicile of a residential shareholder or
22 lessee therein, or of a lessee or shareholder who is not a residential
23 shareholder therein, which is used by the eligible claimant as the
24 eligible claimant's principal residence; or a mutual housing
25 corporation.

26 "Homestead property tax reimbursement" means the property tax
27 benefit provided pursuant to P.L.1997, c.348 (C.54:4-8.67 et seq).

28 "Horizontal property regime" means the form of real property
29 ownership provided for under the "Horizontal Property Act,"
30 P.L.1963, c.168 (C.46:8A-1 et seq.).

31 "Mutual housing corporation" means a corporation not-for-profit,
32 incorporated under the laws of this State on a mutual or cooperative
33 basis within the scope of section 607 of the Lanham Act (National
34 Defense Housing), Pub.L.849, (42 U.S.C. s.1521 et seq.), as
35 amended, which acquired a National Defense Housing Project
36 pursuant to that act.

37 "Principal residence" means a homestead actually and
38 continually occupied by an eligible claimant as the eligible
39 claimant's permanent residence, including a homestead on which an
40 eligible claimant made one or more payments in lieu of taxes to the
41 municipality in which the homestead is located, as distinguished
42 from a vacation home, property owned and rented or offered for
43 rent by the eligible claimant, and other secondary real property
44 holdings.

45 "Property tax" means the general property tax due and payable
46 by the owner of a homestead, based on an assessment made by the
47 municipality upon real property on an ad valorem basis on land and
48 improvements, and shall include payments in lieu of taxes.

1 ²"State resident" or "resident" means an individual:

2 a. who is domiciled in this State, unless the individual maintains
 3 no permanent place of abode in this State, maintains a permanent
 4 place of abode elsewhere, and spends in the aggregate no more than
 5 30 days of the tax year in this State; or

6 b. who is not domiciled in this State but maintains a permanent
 7 place of abode in this State and spends in the aggregate more than
 8 183 days of the tax year in this State, unless the individual is in the
 9 Armed Forces of the United States.²

10 "Stay NJ property tax credit" means a property tax credit in the
 11 amount of 50 percent of an eligible claimant's property tax bill.

12 ²"Task force" means the Stay NJ Task Force established
 13 pursuant to section 18 of P.L...., c. (C.) (pending before the
 14 Legislature as this bill).²

15 "Tax year" ²or "taxable year"² means the ²prior² calendar year,
 16 January 1 through December 31, in which a homestead is assessed
 17 for property taxation and the property tax is levied thereon ², and
 18 paid².

19 "Tax year quarter" means a three month period of a tax year
 20 consisting of January 1 through March 31, April 1 through June 30,
 21 July 1 through September 30, and October 1 through December 31.

22
 23 3. (New section) ²There is established the Stay NJ property tax
 24 credit program.² The director shall administer the Stay NJ property
 25 tax credit that shall provide to an eligible claimant a property tax
 26 credit in the amount of 50 percent of the property tax ²[due and
 27 owing] paid² for the eligible claimant's principal residence ²in the
 28 prior tax year. A Stay NJ property tax credit for an eligible claimant
 29 who is a tenant shareholder in a cooperative, mutual housing
 30 organization, or continuing care retirement community shall be
 31 based on the eligible claimant's proportionate share of the property
 32 taxes assessed against that real property that are attributable to the
 33 eligible claimant's unit². Property tax credits shall be allowed
 34 pursuant to this section in relation to the property taxes paid or
 35 allocable to an eligible claimant who has more than one homestead
 36 in a tax year, but the aggregate amount of the property taxes or
 37 property tax credits claimed shall not exceed the total proportionate
 38 amounts of property taxes assessed and levied against or allocable
 39 to each homestead for the proportion of the tax year quarter to
 40 which the taxpayer occupies it as the taxpayer's principle residence.

41 The amount of the Stay NJ property tax credit shall be calculated
 42 for each eligible claimant by the director, and paid to the tax
 43 collector of the municipality in which the eligible claimant's
 44 homestead is located pursuant to the provisions of subsection a. of
 45 section 5 of P.L. , c (C.) (pending before the Legislature as
 46 this bill).

1 Notwithstanding the provisions of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
 2 before the Legislature as this bill) that require an annual property
 3 tax credit in the amount of 50 percent of the property tax ²[due and
 4 owing] paid² on an eligible claimant's homestead, the maximum
 5 amount to be credited to an eligible claimant shall be ²[\$10,000 per
 6 tax year] \$6,500 in 2026, if there is no delay in implementation as
 7 may occur pursuant to section 19 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
 8 before the Legislature as this bill)². ²For every tax year after the
 9 year in which the Stay NJ property tax credit program is first
 10 implemented, the maximum amount to be credited to an eligible
 11 claimant shall be increased based on the annual percentage increase
 12 in the average residential property tax bill as shall be computed by
 13 the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the
 14 Department of Community Affairs.²

15 An eligible claimant shall be entitled to a Stay NJ property tax
 16 credit annually, on proper claim being made therefor to the director.
 17 Notwithstanding any provision of P.L. , c. (C.)
 18 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) to the contrary, the
 19 amount of property taxes used to determine the amount of the Stay
 20 NJ property tax credit shall not be reduced by the amount of the
 21 deductions taken by an eligible claimant pursuant to P.L.1963,
 22 c.171 (C.54:4-8.10 to 54:4-8.23) and P.L.1964, c.255 (C.54:4-8.40
 23 to 54:4-8.45 et al.). The surviving spouse of a deceased resident of
 24 this State who during his or her life received a Stay NJ property tax
 25 credit shall be entitled, so long as the surviving spouse does not
 26 remarry, remains a resident in the same homestead with respect to
 27 which the Stay NJ property tax credit was granted, and is an eligible
 28 claimant, to the same Stay NJ property tax credit, upon the same
 29 conditions, with respect to the same homestead.

30
 31 4. (New section) a. Not later than July 1, ²[2023] 2025, if
 32 there is no delay in implementation as may occur pursuant to
 33 section 19 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as
 34 this bill)², the director shall promulgate a combined single
 35 application form consistent with the requirements of section 6 of
 36 ²[this act] P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as
 37 this bill) and the recommendations of the Stay NJ Task Force
 38 established pursuant to section 18 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
 39 before the Legislature as this bill)², that shall be available on and
 40 after that date to be used by State residents to apply for the Stay NJ
 41 property tax credit, the ANCHOR property tax rebate, and the
 42 homestead property tax reimbursement program. State residents
 43 seeking property tax benefits under those programs shall complete
 44 the entire application and file it with the director. The director shall
 45 determine which property tax benefit program or programs provide
 46 the greatest benefit for the applicant pursuant to the requirements of
 47 subsection b. of this section.

1 b. Notwithstanding any provision of law, rule, or regulation to
2 the contrary, an applicant shall only be entitled to the greater of:

- 3 (1) the amount of the Stay NJ property tax credit; or
4 (2) the combined amount of the ANCHOR property tax rebate and
5 the homestead property tax reimbursement.

6 c. With respect to the homestead property tax reimbursement
7 program, the base year of an eligible claimant who receives a Stay
8 NJ property tax credit instead of a homestead property tax
9 reimbursement shall remain unchanged, notwithstanding the
10 number of years that the eligible claimant receives a Stay NJ
11 property tax credit instead of a homestead property tax
12 reimbursement.

13 d. The director shall determine the amount of the Stay NJ
14 property tax credit that shall be provided for each eligible claimant
15 pursuant to P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as
16 this bill) based upon the information provided by the eligible
17 claimant in the application or from any other information as may be
18 available to the director and shall notify the applicant of the
19 determined amount in such manner as the director may deem
20 appropriate. Subject to the provisions of the State Uniform Tax
21 Procedure Law, R.S.54:48-1 et seq., such notification shall finally
22 and irrevocably fix the amount of the Stay NJ property tax credit
23 unless the applicant, within 90 days after having been given notice
24 of such determination, shall apply to the director for a hearing, or
25 unless the director shall redetermine the same. After such hearing
26 the director shall give notice of the final determination to the
27 applicant.

28 e. An eligible claimant for ²a² Stay NJ property tax credit
29 authorized under ²["this act"] P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
30 the Legislature as this bill)² who is aggrieved by any decision,
31 order, finding, or denial by the director of all or part of that eligible
32 claimant's ²["Keep Senior New Jersey"] Stay NJ² property tax credit
33 may appeal therefrom to the New Jersey Tax Court in accordance
34 with the provisions of the State Uniform Tax Procedure Law,
35 R.S.54:48-1 et seq. The appeal provided by this section shall be the
36 exclusive remedy available to an applicant for review of a decision
37 of a director in respect to the determination of all or a part of a Stay
38 NJ property tax credit authorized under ²["this act"]
39 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)².

40
41 5. (New section) a. The State Treasurer, upon certification of
42 the director and upon warrant of the Director of the Division of
43 Budget and Accounting, shall pay and distribute the amount of a
44 Stay NJ property tax credit payable under ²["this act"] P.L. , c.
45 (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)² that is
46 claimed for the tax year to ²the tax collector of the municipality in
47 which² each eligible claimant whose credit is approved by the

1 director ²is located; provided, however, a credit due to an eligible
2 claimant who claimed a Stay NJ property tax credit pursuant to
3 section 3 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as
4 this bill), and whose homestead is a unit in a cooperative, mutual
5 housing corporation, or continuing care retirement community, shall
6 be paid directly to the eligible claimant by the State Treasurer². A
7 Stay NJ property tax credit allowed by the director to an eligible
8 claimant who claimed a Stay NJ property tax credit pursuant to
9 section 3 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as
10 this bill), and whose homestead is not a unit in a cooperative,
11 mutual housing corporation, or continuing care retirement
12 community, shall be paid by the State Treasurer through electronic
13 funds transfer made by the director to the local property tax account
14 maintained by the local property tax collector for the homestead of
15 an eligible claimant as the eligible claimant shall identify, in four
16 equal installments after the application for the credit has been
17 approved. The State Treasurer shall pay and distribute Stay NJ
18 property tax credit payments to each municipal tax collector ²or
19 eligible claimant², as applicable, on a quarterly basis at least 10
20 days prior to the statutory due date for each property tax year
21 quarter payment. Notice of payments of Stay NJ credit installments
22 shall be provided to the eligible claimant and the appropriate local
23 tax collector.

24 b. Each municipal tax collector who applies a Stay NJ property
25 tax credit to the property tax account of the homestead of an eligible
26 claimant pursuant to this section shall provide timely notice thereof
27 to the eligible claimant and to any mortgagee or servicing
28 organization noted on the property tax account that requires a
29 mortgagor to make property tax payments to an escrow account, for
30 the purpose of encouraging the escrow account property tax
31 requirements to be promptly adjusted to the benefit of the property
32 tax taxpayer on account of Stay NJ property tax credit payments.
33

34 6. (New section) a. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 6
35 of P.L.1990, c.61 (C.54:4-8.62) and section 3 of P.L.1997, c.348
36 (C.54:4-8.70) concerning the form and deadline of applications for
37 the ANCHOR rebate program and the homestead property tax
38 reimbursement, the director shall promulgate a single combined
39 application form to be used by State residents to apply for the
40 ANCHOR rebate program, the homestead property tax
41 reimbursement program, and the Stay NJ property tax credit ²in
42 accordance with the recommendations of the Stay NJ Task Force
43 established pursuant to section 18 of P.L. , c. (C.)
44 (pending before the Legislature as this bill)². The combined
45 application form shall ², at a minimum,² require the applicant to
46 submit information about his or her age, annual income, homestead
47 property address, as well as any other information determined

1 necessary by the director in order to approve or disapprove the
2 applicant's participation in those programs. The combined
3 application form shall also advise the applicant that the director
4 shall determine the eligibility of an applicant to receive an
5 ANCHOR rebate, homestead property tax reimbursement, or a Stay
6 NJ property tax credit. The director shall, for good cause shown,
7 extend the time of any applicant to file an application for a
8 reasonable period, and in such case, the application shall be
9 processed and payment of an ANCHOR rebate, homestead property
10 tax reimbursement, or a Stay NJ property tax credit made in
11 accordance with the procedures established in the case of
12 applications timely filed, except the date for the payment may be
13 delayed for a reasonable period. If an applicant or an applicant's
14 spouse has filed an application for an extension of time to file a
15 gross income tax return, the date by which the applicant shall file an
16 application may, in the discretion of the director, be extended for a
17 reasonable period, and the date for the payment of ²~~payment of~~²
18 an ANCHOR rebate, homestead property tax reimbursement, or a
19 Stay NJ property tax credit may be delayed for a reasonable period.
20 A State resident seeking property tax benefits under any of those
21 programs shall accurately complete the entire application and file it
22 with the director.

23 For purposes of this subsection, in order to establish good cause
24 to extend the time of an eligible claimant to file an application, the
25 eligible claimant shall provide to the director either medical
26 evidence, such as a doctor's certification, that the claimant was
27 unable to file the claim by the date prescribed by the director
28 because of illness or hospitalization, or evidence that the applicant
29 attempted to file a timely application. Except as may be established
30 by medical evidence or inability to file a claim, good cause shall not
31 be established due to a claimant not having received an application
32 from the director.

33 b. Upon the approval of applications by the director, the director
34 shall prepare lists of individuals entitled to receive a Stay NJ
35 ²property tax² credit, together with the respective amounts due each
36 ²eligible² claimant and shall forward such lists to the State
37 Treasurer, the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting,
38 and any other officials as the director deems appropriate on or
39 before the earliest of such date or dates as may be convenient for
40 the director to compile such lists. The director may inspect all
41 records in the office of the tax collector and tax assessor of a
42 municipality with respect to applications, claims, and allowances
43 for Stay NJ property tax credits.

44 c. If an application contains a claim for a Stay NJ property tax
45 credit that ²~~is incorrectly determined by the eligible~~ contains
46 incorrect information from the² claimant or is based upon incorrect
47 or insufficient information from which the director is to ²determine

1 and² approve the claim, the director may determine the eligibility of
2 the claimant for a Stay NJ property tax credit and the correct
3 amount of a Stay NJ property tax credit from such other information
4 as may be available to the director.

5 d. In the case of an eligible claimant whose homestead is a unit
6 in a cooperative, mutual housing corporation, or continuing care
7 retirement community, the director may provide that the application
8 shall include the name and address of the location of the property
9 and the amount of real property taxes attributed to the cooperative,
10 mutual housing residential unit^{2,2} or continuing care retirement
11 community residential unit, as shall be indicated in an official
12 notice which shall be furnished by the cooperative, mutual housing
13 corporation, or continuing care retirement community for the tax
14 year.

15
16 7. (New section) When title to a homestead for which a Stay NJ
17 property tax credit is claimed, is held by an eligible claimant and
18 another or others, either as tenants in common or as joint tenants,
19 the eligible claimant shall not be allowed a Stay NJ property tax
20 credit in an amount in excess of the eligible claimant's
21 proportionate share of the taxes assessed against the homestead,
22 which proportionate share, for the purposes of
23 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this
24 bill), shall be deemed to be equal to that of each of the other
25 tenants, unless it is shown that the interests in question are not
26 equal, in which event the eligible claimant's proportionate share
27 shall be as shown. Nothing herein shall preclude more than one
28 tenant, whether title be held in common or joint tenancy, from
29 claiming a Stay NJ property tax credit from the taxes assessed
30 against the property so held, but no more than the equivalent of one
31 full Stay NJ property tax credit in regard to such homestead shall be
32 allowed in any year. In any case in which the eligible claimants
33 cannot agree as to the apportionment thereof, such Stay NJ property
34 tax credit shall be apportioned between or among them in
35 proportion to their interest. Property held by husband and wife, as
36 tenants by the entirety, shall be deemed wholly owned by each
37 tenant, but no more than one full Stay NJ property tax credit in
38 regard to such homestead shall be allowed in any year. Right to
39 claim a Stay NJ property tax credit hereunder shall extend to a
40 homestead the title to which is held by a partnership, to the extent
41 of the eligible claimant's interest as a partner therein, and by a
42 guardian, trustee, committee, conservator or other fiduciary for any
43 person who would otherwise be entitled to claim such Stay NJ
44 property tax credit hereunder, but not to a homestead the title to
45 which is held by a corporation; except that a residential shareholder
46 in a cooperative or mutual housing corporation shall be entitled to
47 claim a Stay NJ property tax credit if the residential shareholder is
48 otherwise eligible to receive it, to the extent of the proportionate

1 share of the taxes assessed against the homestead of the
2 corporation, or any other entity holding title, attributable to the
3 residential shareholder's unit therein.

4
5 8. (New section) In the case of a delinquency in the payment of
6 property taxes by a cooperative, mutual housing corporation or
7 continuing care retirement community, a Stay NJ property tax
8 credit that may be due an individual shall be paid by the State
9 Treasurer to the tax collector of the municipality. The tax collector
10 shall credit the cooperative, mutual housing corporation or
11 continuing care retirement community with such payment and the
12 cooperative, mutual housing corporation or continuing care
13 retirement community shall, in turn, credit the individual unit owner
14 to the extent of the Stay NJ property tax credit and notify the
15 eligible claimant of the amount to be credited.

16
17 9. (New section) Any individual who receives a Stay NJ
18 property tax credit otherwise authorized under this act but as a
19 result of an intentional misrepresentation of a material fact shall be
20 required to repay to the director the amount of the credit and shall
21 be liable to a penalty equal to 150 percent of the amount of the Stay
22 NJ property tax credit paid as a result of that misrepresentation.

23
24 10. a. (New section) Except as provided in subsection b. of this
25 section, a person who receives a Stay NJ property tax credit
26 otherwise authorized under this act but which has been paid in error
27 and which is recoverable by the director, and fails to return the
28 payment within 45 days of receiving notice from the director that
29 such payment was erroneous, shall pay, in addition to the amount of
30 the erroneous credit, interest at the rate prescribed in R.S.54:49-3,
31 assessed for each month or fraction thereof, compounded annually
32 at the end of each year, from the date next following the 45th day
33 after receiving the notice from the director that such payment was
34 erroneous until the date of the return of the erroneous payment.

35 b. A person who is 65 years of age or older at the close of the
36 tax year, or who is allowed to claim a personal deduction as a blind
37 or disabled taxpayer pursuant to subsection b. of N.J.S.54A:3-1,
38 who receives notice from the director pursuant to this section, shall
39 within 45 days after receiving that notice, be permitted enter into an
40 installment payment agreement for a reasonable period of time that
41 will enable the person to completely satisfy the amount paid in
42 effort and without the assessment of interest thereon.

43 c. Except as an installment payment agreement permitted
44 pursuant to subsection b. of this section, a Stay NJ Property Tax
45 Credit paid as a result of misrepresentation or paid in error and any
46 penalties and interest imposed thereon by this act, shall be payable
47 to and recoverable by the director in the same manner as a

1 deficiency with respect to the payment of State tax in accordance
2 with the State Uniform Tax Procedure Law, R.S.54:48-1 et seq.

3
4 11. (New section) Notwithstanding the provisions of the
5 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
6 seq.) to the contrary, the Director of the Division of Taxation in the
7 Department of the Treasury may adopt immediately upon filing
8 with the Office of Administrative Law, such regulations as the
9 director deems necessary to implement the provisions of
10 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) as
11 may be necessary to meet the requirements of P.L. , c. (C.)
12 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), which regulations shall
13 be effective for a period not to exceed 180 days from the date of the
14 filing. The regulations may thereafter be amended, adopted, or
15 readopted by the director as the director deems necessary in
16 accordance with P.L.1968, c.410. The director shall also
17 promulgate such forms as the director shall deem necessary to
18 implement the provisions of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
19 the Legislature as this bill).

20
21 12. (New section) There shall be annually appropriated to the
22 Department of the Treasury such amount as the Director of the
23 Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the
24 Treasury shall determine is necessary for the administrative costs,
25 including to reimburse additional costs incurred by local tax
26 collectors, of implementing the provisions of P.L. , c. (C.)
27 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

28
29 13. Section 1 of P.L.1997, c.348 (C.54:4-8.67) is amended to
30 read as follows:

31 1. As used in this act:

32 "Base year" means, in the case of a person who is an eligible
33 claimant on or before December 31, 1997, the tax year 1997; and in
34 the case of a person who first becomes an eligible claimant after
35 December 31, 1997, the tax year in which the person first becomes
36 an eligible claimant. In the case of an eligible claimant who
37 subsequently moves from the homestead for which the initial
38 eligibility was established, the base year shall be the first full tax
39 year during which the person resides in the new homestead.
40 Provided however, a base year for an eligible claimant after such a
41 move shall not apply to tax years commencing prior to January 1,
42 2009. In the case of an eligible claimant who receives a Stay NJ
43 property tax credit in lieu of a homestead property tax
44 reimbursement pursuant to section 4 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
45 before the Legislature as this bill), the base year of that eligible
46 claimant shall remain unchanged.

47 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Community
48 Affairs.

1 "Director" means the Director of the Division of Taxation.

2 "Condominium" means the form of real property ownership
3 provided for under the "Condominium Act," P.L.1969, c.257
4 (C.46:8B-1 et seq.).

5 "Cooperative" means a housing corporation or association which
6 entitles the holder of a share or membership interest thereof to
7 possess and occupy for dwelling purposes a house, apartment or
8 other unit of housing owned or leased by the corporation or
9 association, or to lease or purchase a unit of housing constructed or
10 to be constructed by the corporation or association.

11 "Disabled person" means an individual receiving monetary
12 payments pursuant to Title II of the federal Social Security Act (42
13 U.S.C. s.401 et seq.) on December 31, 1998, or on December 31 in
14 all or any part of the year for which a homestead property tax
15 reimbursement under this act is claimed.

16 "Dwelling house" means any residential property assessed as real
17 property which consists of not more than four units, of which not
18 more than one may be used for commercial purposes, but shall not
19 include a unit in a condominium, cooperative, horizontal property
20 regime or mutual housing corporation.

21 "Eligible claimant" means a person who:

22 is 65 or more years of age, or who is a disabled person;

23 is an owner of a homestead, or the lessee of a site in a mobile
24 home park on which site the applicant owns a manufactured or
25 mobile home;

26 has an annual income of less than \$17,918 in tax year 1998, less
27 than \$18,151 in tax year 1999, or less than \$37,174 in tax year
28 2000, if single, or, if married, whose annual income combined with
29 that of the spouse is less than \$21,970 in tax year 1998, less than
30 \$22,256 in tax year 1999, or less than \$45,582 in tax year 2000,
31 which income eligibility limits for single and married persons shall
32 be subject to adjustments in tax years 2001 through 2006 pursuant
33 to section 9 of P.L.1997, c.348 (C.54:4-8.68);

34 has an annual income of \$60,000 or less in tax year 2007,
35 \$70,000 or less in tax year 2008, or \$80,000 or less in tax year
36 2009, if single or married, which income eligibility limits shall be
37 subject to adjustments in ¹【subsequent】¹ tax years ¹2010 through
38 2021¹ pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1997, c.348 (C.54:4-8.68);

39 ¹has an annual income of \$150,000 or less in tax year 2022, if
40 single or married, which income eligibility limits shall be subject to
41 adjustments in subsequent tax years pursuant to section 9 of
42 P.L.1997, c.348 (C.54:4-8.68);¹

43 ¹【as a renter or homeowner, has made a long-term contribution
44 to the fabric, social structure and finances of one or more
45 communities in this State, as demonstrated through the payment of
46 property taxes directly, or through rent, on any homestead or rental
47 unit used as a principal residence in this State for at least 10

1 consecutive years] has, for¹ at least three ¹[of which as owner of]
2 years, owned and resided in¹ the homestead for which a homestead
3 property tax reimbursement is sought prior to the date that an initial
4 application for a homestead property tax reimbursement is filed. A
5 person who has been an eligible claimant for a previous tax year
6 shall qualify as an eligible claimant beginning the second full tax
7 year following a move to another homestead in New Jersey, despite
8 not meeting the three-year minimum residency and ownership
9 requirement required for initial claimants under this paragraph;
10 provided that the person satisfies the income eligibility limits for
11 the tax year. Provided however, eligibility beginning in a second
12 full tax year after such a move shall not apply to tax years
13 commencing prior to January 1, 2010.

14 "Homestead" means:

15 a dwelling house and the land on which that dwelling house is
16 located which constitutes the place of the eligible claimant's
17 domicile and is owned and used by the eligible claimant as the
18 eligible claimant's principal residence;

19 a site in a mobile home park equipped for the installation of
20 manufactured or mobile homes, where these sites are under
21 common ownership and control for the purpose of leasing each site
22 to the owner of a manufactured or mobile home for the installation
23 thereof and such site is used by the eligible claimant as the eligible
24 claimant's principal residence;

25 a dwelling house situated on land owned by a person other than
26 the eligible claimant which constitutes the place of the eligible
27 claimant's domicile and is owned and used by the eligible claimant
28 as the eligible claimant's principal residence;

29 a condominium unit or a unit in a horizontal property regime or a
30 continuing care retirement community which constitutes the place
31 of the eligible claimant's domicile and is owned and used by the
32 eligible claimant as the eligible claimant's principal residence.

33 In addition to the generally accepted meaning of "owned" or
34 "ownership," a homestead shall be deemed to be owned by a person
35 if that person is a tenant for life or a tenant under a lease for 99
36 years or more, is entitled to and actually takes possession of the
37 homestead under an executory contract for the sale thereof or under
38 an agreement with a lending institution which holds title as security
39 for a loan, or is a resident of a continuing care retirement
40 community pursuant to a contract for continuing care for the life of
41 that person which requires the resident to bear, separately from any
42 other charges, the proportionate share of property taxes attributable
43 to the unit that the resident occupies;

44 a unit in a cooperative or mutual housing corporation which
45 constitutes the place of domicile of a residential shareholder or
46 lessee therein, or of a lessee or shareholder who is not a residential
47 shareholder therein, which is used by the eligible claimant as the
48 eligible claimant's principal residence.

1 "Homestead property tax reimbursement" means payment of the
2 difference between the amount of property tax or site fee
3 constituting property tax due and paid in any year on any
4 homestead, exclusive of improvements not included in the
5 assessment on the real property for the base year, and the amount of
6 property tax or site fee constituting property tax due and paid in the
7 base year, when the amount paid in the base year is the lower
8 amount; but such calculations shall be reduced by any current year
9 property tax reductions or reductions in site fees constituting
10 property taxes resulting from judgments entered by county boards
11 of taxation or the State Tax Court.

12 "Horizontal property regime" means the form of real property
13 ownership provided for under the "Horizontal Property Act,"
14 P.L.1963, c.168 (C.46:8A-1 et seq.).

15 "Manufactured home" or "mobile home" means a unit of housing
16 which:

17 (1) Consists of one or more transportable sections which are
18 substantially constructed off site and, if more than one section, are
19 joined together on site;

20 (2) Is built on a permanent chassis;

21 (3) Is designed to be used, when connected to utilities, as a
22 dwelling on a permanent or nonpermanent foundation; and

23 (4) Is manufactured in accordance with the standards
24 promulgated for a manufactured home by the Secretary of the
25 United States Department of Housing and Urban Development
26 pursuant to the "National Manufactured Housing Construction and
27 Safety Standards Act of 1974," Pub.L.93-383 (42 U.S.C. s.5401 et
28 seq.) and the standards promulgated for a manufactured or mobile
29 home by the commissioner pursuant to the "State Uniform
30 Construction Code Act," P.L.1975, c.217 (C.52:27D-119 et seq.).

31 "Mobile home park" means a parcel of land, or two or more
32 parcels of land, containing no fewer than 10 sites equipped for the
33 installation of manufactured or mobile homes, where these sites are
34 under common ownership and control for the purpose of leasing
35 each site to the owner of a manufactured or mobile home for the
36 installation thereof, and where the owner or owners provide
37 services, which are provided by the municipality in which the park
38 is located for property owners outside the park, which services may
39 include but shall not be limited to:

40 (1) The construction and maintenance of streets;

41 (2) Lighting of streets and other common areas;

42 (3) Garbage removal;

43 (4) Snow removal; and

44 (5) Provisions for the drainage of surface water from home sites
45 and common areas.

46 "Mutual housing corporation" means a corporation not-for-profit,
47 incorporated under the laws of this State on a mutual or cooperative
48 basis within the scope of section 607 of the Lanham Act (National

1 Defense Housing), Pub.L.849, (42 U.S.C. s.1521 et seq.), as
 2 amended, which acquired a National Defense Housing Project
 3 pursuant to that act.

4 "Income" means income as determined pursuant to P.L.1975,
 5 c.194 (C.30:4D-20 et seq.).

6 "Principal residence" means a homestead actually and
 7 continually occupied by an eligible claimant as his or her permanent
 8 residence, as distinguished from a vacation home, property owned
 9 and rented or offered for rent by the claimant, and other secondary
 10 real property holdings.

11 "Property tax" means the general property tax due and paid as set
 12 forth in this section, and shall include the amount of property tax
 13 credit as defined in section 1 of P.L.2018, c.11 (C.54:4-66.6), on a
 14 homestead, but does not include special assessments and interest
 15 and penalties for delinquent taxes. For the sole purpose of
 16 qualifying for a benefit under P.L.1997, c.348 (C.54:4-8.67 et seq.),
 17 property taxes paid by June 1 of the year following the year for
 18 which the benefit is claimed will be deemed to be timely paid.

19 "Site fee constituting property tax" means 18 percent of the
 20 annual site fee paid or payable to the owner of a mobile home park.

21 "Tax year" means the calendar year in which a homestead is
 22 assessed and the property tax is levied thereon and it means the
 23 calendar year in which income is received or accrued.

24 (cf: P.L.2018, c.11, s.11)

25

26 14. Section 7 of P.L.1997, c.348 (C.54:4-8.74) is amended to
 27 read as follows:

28 7. In the event that a previously eligible claimant ceases to be an
 29 eligible claimant for any tax year, the base year for that claimant
 30 shall be the year prior to which the claimant again becomes an
 31 eligible claimant.

32 In the case of an eligible claimant who receives a Stay NJ
 33 property tax credit in lieu of a homestead property tax
 34 reimbursement pursuant to section 4 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
 35 before the Legislature as this bill), the eligible claimant shall remain
 36 an eligible claimant for the purposes of P.L.1997, c.348 (C.54:4-
 37 8.67 et seq.), and the base year of that eligible claimant shall remain
 38 unchanged as long as the eligible claimant meets all of the other
 39 eligibility requirements of P.L.1997, c.348 (C.54:4-8.67 et seq.).

40 (cf: P.L.1997, c.348, s.7)

41

42 ²[15. a. The Department of the Treasury shall establish a
 43 dedicated nonlapsing account known as the Stay NJ account. All
 44 moneys deposited into the fund shall be used for the payment of
 45 Stay NJ property tax credits and for the administration of the Stay
 46 NJ property tax credit program.

47 b. There is appropriated to the Stay NJ account an amount not in
 48 excess of \$300,000,000 for the Stay NJ program, subject to the

1 approval of the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting
2 in the Department of the Treasury.

3 c. In State Fiscal Year 2024, there shall be appropriated to the
4 Stay NJ account an amount not in excess of \$300,000,000 for the
5 Stay NJ program, subject to the approval of the Director of the
6 Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the
7 Treasury.

8 d. In State Fiscal Year 2025, there shall be appropriated to the
9 Stay NJ account an amount not in excess of \$600,000,000 for the
10 Stay NJ program, subject to the approval of the Director of the
11 Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the
12 Treasury.

13 e. In State Fiscal Year 2026, there shall be appropriated to the
14 Stay NJ account an amount not in excess of \$800,000,000 for the
15 Stay NJ program, subject to the approval of the Director of the
16 Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the
17 Treasury.

18 f. In State Fiscal Year 2027, there shall be appropriated to the
19 Stay NJ account an amount not in excess of \$1,000,000,000 for the
20 Stay NJ program, subject to the approval of the Director of the
21 Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the
22 Treasury.

23 g. In State Fiscal Year 2028, and each fiscal year thereafter,
24 there shall be appropriated to the Stay NJ account an amount not in
25 excess of \$1,200,000,000 for the Stay NJ program, subject to the
26 approval of the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting
27 in the Department of the Treasury. ¹²

28

29 ²15. (New section) a. In addition to the property tax benefits
30 paid under the ANCHOR Property Tax Relief Program to eligible
31 homestead owners and tenants on their principal residences,
32 whether owned or rented, pursuant to the provisions of sections 3 or
33 4 of P.L.1990, c.61 (C.54:4-8.59 or C.54:4-8.60) as amended, the
34 State Fiscal Year 2024 appropriations act shall provide for the
35 following additional benefits under the ANCHOR Property Tax
36 Relief Program:

37 (1) a resident homestead owner 65 years of age or older with
38 gross income not in excess of \$250,000 for the tax year that is used
39 to determine such resident homestead owner's eligibility for the
40 ANCHOR Property Tax Relief Program is eligible for an additional
41 benefit in the amount of \$250; provided, however, the total benefits
42 received by such resident homestead owner under the ANCHOR
43 Property Tax Relief Program and this section shall not exceed the
44 amount of property taxes paid by such resident homestead owner;
45 and

46 (2) a resident 65 years of age or older whose homestead is a unit
47 of residential rental property with gross income not in excess of
48 \$150,000 for the tax year that is used to determine such resident's

1 eligibility for the ANCHOR Property Tax Relief Program is eligible
2 for an additional benefit in the amount of \$250.

3 b. The additional property tax benefits required pursuant to
4 subsection a. of this section shall be paid in State Fiscal Years
5 2024, 2025, and 2026 at the same time and in the same manner as,
6 and as part of the same application process for, property tax benefits
7 provided under the ANCHOR Property Tax Relief Program.²
8

9 ²[¹16. The provisions of sections 1 through 15 of P.L. _____,
10 c. (C. _____) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall
11 not supersede, impact, or interfere with the full funding in each
12 State fiscal year necessary to satisfy the requirement in Article VIII,
13 Section 4, paragraph 1 of the New Jersey Constitution that the
14 Legislature provide for the maintenance and support of a thorough
15 and efficient system of free public schools for the instruction of
16 children in the State between the ages of five and 18 years; and the
17 full funding of the veterans' \$250 property tax deduction, required
18 to be provided to eligible veterans pursuant to Article VIII, Section
19 I, paragraph 3 of the New Jersey Constitution, and the senior
20 citizens' and disabled persons' \$250 property tax deduction
21 authorized by Article VIII, Section I, paragraph 4 of the New Jersey
22 Constitution.¹]²
23

24 ²16. a. The Department of the Treasury shall establish a
25 dedicated, nonlapsing account for the purpose of providing property
26 tax benefits to homestead owners and tenants 65 years of age or
27 older on their principal residences, whether owned or rented. All
28 moneys deposited into the account shall be used for the payment of
29 property tax benefits in accordance with subsection c. of this
30 section.

31 b. (1) There is appropriated to the account established by
32 subsection a. of this section in State Fiscal Year 2024,
33 \$100,000,000 for the purpose of providing property tax benefits in
34 accordance with subsection c. of this section, subject to the
35 approval of the Director of the Division of Budgeting and
36 Accounting in the Department of the Treasury.

37 (2) The annual appropriations act for State Fiscal Year 2025
38 shall include an appropriation to the account established by
39 subsection a. of this section, in an amount not to exceed
40 \$200,000,000 for the purpose of providing property tax benefits in
41 accordance with subsection c. of this section.

42 (3) The annual appropriations act for State Fiscal Year 2026
43 shall include an appropriation to the account established by
44 subsection a. of this section, in an amount not to exceed
45 \$300,000,000 for the purpose of providing property tax benefits in
46 accordance with subsection c. of this section.

47 c. Beginning in State Fiscal Year 2026, moneys in the account
48 established by subsection a. of this section shall be appropriated

1 solely for the Stay NJ property tax credit program established
2 pursuant to section 3 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
3 Legislature as this bill).²

4
5 ²17. (New section) The amendatory and supplementary
6 provisions of sections 1 through 16 of P.L. , c. (C.)
7 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall not supersede,
8 impact, or interfere with any of the following:

9 a. the full funding in each State fiscal year necessary to satisfy
10 the requirement in Article VIII, Section IV, paragraph 1 of the New
11 Jersey Constitution that the Legislature provide for the maintenance
12 and support of a thorough and efficient system of free public
13 schools for the instruction of children in the State between the ages
14 of five and 18 years;

15 b. the full funding of the veterans' \$250 property tax deduction,
16 required to be provided to eligible veterans pursuant to Article VIII,
17 Section I, paragraph 3 of the New Jersey Constitution;

18 c. the full funding of the senior citizens' and disabled persons'
19 \$250 property tax deduction authorized by Article VIII, Section I,
20 paragraph 4 of the New Jersey Constitution;

21 d. the full payment of the contributions required by law to be
22 made to the State-administered retirement systems; and

23 e. the maintenance of a budgetary surplus target of no less than
24 12 percent of total expenditures from the General Fund and the
25 Property Tax Relief Fund in a given State fiscal year.²

26
27 ²18. (New section) a. There is established in the Department of
28 the Treasury the Stay NJ Task Force. The purpose of the task force
29 shall be to develop recommendations for establishing and funding
30 uniform property tax relief to all senior citizen homeowners and
31 tenants making under \$500,000 per year. The task force shall
32 review all of the existing property tax relief programs and present,
33 to the Governor and the Legislature, no later than May 30, 2024, a
34 report containing recommendations about how to restructure, and
35 consolidate, the various property tax relief programs into one,
36 streamlined, property tax relief program that would deliver to senior
37 citizens having an annual gross income under \$500,000 an annual
38 property tax benefit, which for homeowners shall be in the amount
39 of 50 percent of the property tax bill on their principal residence,
40 beginning with the tax year 2026, which commences on January 1
41 of that year. The report shall include recommendations concerning
42 system improvements that both the State and local government units
43 would need to implement the Stay NJ property tax credit program
44 and the funding required to establish and maintain such system
45 improvements. The task force shall provide recommendations that
46 have a target implementation date of January 1, 2026.

1 b. The task force shall be comprised of six members. The
2 membership of the task force shall be appointed as follows:

3 The State Treasurer, or the State Treasurer's designee, who shall
4 serve ex officio;

5 The Commissioner of Community Affairs, or the commissioner's
6 designee, who shall serve ex officio;

7 One public member, who shall be appointed by the Governor,
8 who may be an employee of the Executive Branch of State
9 government;

10 One public member who shall be appointed by the Governor
11 upon the recommendation of the Senate President;

12 One public member who shall be appointed by the Governor
13 upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the General Assembly;
14 and

15 One public member who shall be appointed by the Governor
16 upon the joint recommendation of the Senate President and the
17 Speaker of the General Assembly.

18 The task force shall have a chairperson and a vice chairperson
19 designated by the Governor. The Governor shall designate as the
20 chairperson one of the cabinet members of the task force, or their
21 designee, or the public member appointed by the Governor. The
22 Governor shall designate as the vice chairperson a public member
23 upon the joint recommendation of the Senate President and the
24 Speaker of the General Assembly. The Governor shall also appoint
25 a secretary. There shall be required affirmative vote of four out of
26 the six members of the task force for an action to be taken or a
27 decision made.

28 The task force shall organize as expeditiously as practicable
29 following the appointment of all its public members. Appointments
30 to the task force shall be made in an expeditious manner to ensure
31 the task force has sufficient time to make the recommendations
32 required by this section in order to facilitate implementation of the
33 Stay NJ program on or before the dates set forth in
34 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

35 c. The Governor shall appoint an executive director, who shall
36 be employed by the task force and paid by the task force from funds
37 appropriated for its use pursuant to P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
38 before the Legislature as this bill).

39 The Department of the Treasury shall provide staff support to the
40 task force. The task force shall be entitled to call to its assistance
41 and avail itself of the services of the employees of any State,
42 county, or municipal department, board, bureau, commission, or
43 agency as the task force may require and as may be available to the
44 task force for its purposes. The task force may consult with experts
45 or other knowledgeable individuals in the public or private sector
46 on any aspect of its mission outlined in this section; provided,
47 however, any services, professional or otherwise, that the task force
48 requires shall be procured by the Department of the Treasury.

1 No later than May 30, 2024, the task force shall prepare and
2 submit to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991,
3 c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature, a report detailing the task
4 force's recommendations as required by this section, including any
5 recommendations for legislative or regulatory action that are
6 necessary to effectuate the recommendations.

7 d. Beginning September 1, 2023 and on the first day of each
8 calendar quarter thereafter, the executive director shall submit to
9 the presiding officer of each House of the Legislature, and to the
10 chairs of the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee and the
11 Assembly Budget Committee, a status update on the work
12 undertaken by the task force during the previous calendar quarter.
13 The presiding officer of each House of the Legislature, and the
14 chairs of the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee and the
15 Assembly Budget Committee, may request that specific information
16 be included in the quarterly status updates required by this
17 subsection concerning the work of the task force and the
18 formulation of any recommendations it may make for the
19 streamlining of the various property tax relief programs for senior
20 citizens provided by the State into one, uniform program.

21 e. The task force shall disband on the 30th day after the
22 enactment of legislation in response to the Stay NJ Task Force
23 pursuant to section 19 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
24 Legislature as this bill).²

25
26 ²19. (New section) After the Legislature and the Governor
27 review the Stay NJ Task Force's recommendations and determine
28 such recommendations are appropriate, the Legislature shall
29 consider and approve, and the Governor shall enact, the legislation
30 recommended by the Stay NJ Task Force, or legislation
31 substantially similar to the legislation recommended by the task
32 force, regarding the objectives set forth in section 18 of P.L. , c.
33 (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) not later than 90
34 days prior to July 1, 2025, the date by which the State Treasurer
35 shall be required to produce the application for the Stay NJ program
36 in 2026 pursuant to section 4 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
37 before the Legislature as this bill). Notwithstanding the provisions
38 of this act or any law to the contrary, if the Legislature and the
39 Governor fail: (1) to enact legislation following the release of the
40 task force's report or (2) to enact legislation that the Governor and
41 Legislature deem appropriate which otherwise addresses the issues
42 the task force is required to consider pursuant to section 18 of
43 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill),
44 then promulgation of a combined single application form shall not
45 be required on or before the date set forth in section 4 of P.L. , c.
46 (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) and the
47 implementation of the Stay NJ property tax credit program shall be
48 delayed until the enactment of such legislation If legislation is

1 enacted after the 90th day preceding July 1, 2025, then
 2 promulgation of a combined single application form shall be
 3 required no earlier than the 91st day next following the enactment
 4 of such legislation and the implementation of the Stay NJ property
 5 tax credit program shall begin no earlier than the first tax year
 6 quarter beginning no less than six months following the
 7 promulgation of the combined single application form.²

8
 9 ²20. Section 1 of P.L.1990, c.61 (C.54:4-8.57) is amended to
 10 read as follows:

11 1. Sections 1 through 10 of P.L.1990, c.61 (C.54:4-8.57 through
 12 54:4-8.66) and sections 3, 14 through 16, 18 and 19 of P.L.1999,
 13 c.63 (C.54:4-8.58a and C.54:4-8.66a through C.54:4-8.66e) shall be
 14 known and may be cited as the "Homestead Property Tax Credit
 15 Act" **[.]** ; provided, however, that on and after the first day of the
 16 first tax year quarter in which the Stay NJ property tax credit
 17 program is implemented, those sections shall be known and may be
 18 cited as the "Stay NJ Act."²

19 (cf: P.L.2007, c.62, s.20)

20
 21 ²**[¹17.] 21.**² (New section) The amendatory provisions of
 22 section 13 of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this
 23 bill), modifying ownership requirements and income eligibility,
 24 shall be used to determine whether a person first becomes an
 25 eligible claimant on and after January 1, 2022, and the first
 26 payments to a claimant who establishes eligibility pursuant to the
 27 amendatory provisions of ²section 13 of² P.L. , c. (C.)
 28 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be made beginning
 29 in calendar year 2024. The provisions of P.L.1997, c.348 (C.54:4-
 30 8.67 et al.) in effect immediately before the effective date of P.L. ,
 31 c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall govern the
 32 determination of whether a person first becomes an eligible
 33 claimant on or before December 31, 2021. Benefit payments for
 34 ²**[these new households]** a newly eligible claimant² will begin in
 35 State fiscal year 2025, after ²[they have] there has been²
 36 established ²[their] a² base year of eligibility.¹

37
 38 ²22. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
 39 Department of the Treasury:

40 a. the sum of \$2,000,000 for support of the task force
 41 established pursuant to section 18 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
 42 before the Legislature as this bill), including but not limited to the
 43 hiring of staff and the procurement of professional services; and
 44 b. the sum of \$15,000,000 for marketing and outreach to inform
 45 eligible residents 65 years of age or older of the additional benefits
 46 available to eligible homestead owners and tenants on their

1 principal residences pursuant to section 15 of P.L. , c. (C.)
2 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).²
3
4 ¹~~[16.]~~ ²~~[18.]~~ 23.² This act shall take effect ¹~~[July 1, 2023]~~
5 immediately¹ and ¹, with respect to Stay NJ property tax credits,¹
6 first apply to ¹~~[property tax credits for]~~¹ the tax year quarter
7 beginning January 1, ²~~[2025]~~ 2026, or, if the Governor and the
8 Legislature fail to enact legislation as required by section 19 of
9 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill),
10 the first tax year quarter beginning no less than six months
11 following promulgation of the combined single application form².