ASSEMBLY, No. 4889

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 21, 2022

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman CRAY G. COUGHLIN
District 19 (Middlesex)
Assemblyman JOHN DIMAIO
District 23 (Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren)

SYNOPSIS
Removes requirement that local government officers disclose their property addresses in financial disclosure statements.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT
As introduced.
AN ACT removing the requirement that local government officers disclose their property addresses in certain financial disclosure statements and amending P.L.1991, c.29.

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

1. Section 6 of P.L.1991, c.29 (C.40A:9-22.6) is amended to read as follows:

6. a. Local government officers shall annually file a financial disclosure statement. All financial disclosure statements filed pursuant to P.L.1991, c.29 shall include the following information which shall specify, where applicable, the name and address of each source and the local government officer's job title:

   (1) Each source of income, earned or unearned, exceeding $2,000 received by the local government officer or a member of his immediate family during the preceding calendar year. Individual client fees, customer receipts or commissions on transactions received through a business organization need not be separately reported as sources of income. If a publicly traded security is the source of income, the security need not be reported unless the local government officer or member of his immediate family has an interest in the business organization;

   (2) Each source of fees and honorariums having an aggregate amount exceeding $250 from any single source for personal appearances, speeches or writings received by the local government officer or a member of his immediate family during the preceding calendar year;

   (3) Each source of gifts, reimbursements or prepaid expenses having an aggregate value exceeding $400 from any single source, excluding relatives, received by the local government officer or a member of his immediate family during the preceding calendar year;

   (4) The name and address of all business organizations in which the local government officer or a member of his immediate family had an interest during the preceding calendar year; and

   (5) [The address and] A brief description, including the county and municipality where located, of all real property in the State in which the local government officer or a member of his immediate family held an interest during the preceding calendar year.

   b. The Local Finance Board shall prescribe a financial disclosure statement form for filing purposes. For counties and municipalities which have not established ethics boards, the board shall transmit sufficient copies of the forms to the municipal clerk in each municipality and the county clerk in each county for filing

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.
in accordance with this act. The municipal clerk shall make the forms available to the local government officers serving the municipality. The county clerk shall make the forms available to the local government officers serving the county.

For counties and municipalities which have established ethics boards, the Local Finance Board shall transmit sufficient copies of the forms to the ethics boards for filing in accordance with this act. The ethics boards shall make the forms available to the local government officers within their jurisdiction.

For local government officers serving the municipality, the original statement shall be filed with the municipal clerk in the municipality in which the local government officer serves. For local government officers serving the county, the original statement shall be filed with the county clerk in the county in which the local government officer serves. A copy of the statement shall be filed with the board. In counties or municipalities which have established ethics boards a copy of the statement shall also be filed with the ethics board having jurisdiction over the local government officer. Local government officers shall file the initial financial disclosure statement within 90 days following the effective date of this act. Thereafter, statements shall be filed on or before April 30th each year, except that each local government officer shall file a financial disclosure statement within 30 days of taking office.

c. All financial disclosure statements filed shall be public records.

d. The Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs may establish an electronic filing system for financial disclosure statements required to be filed pursuant to this section.

(cf: P.L.2015, c.95, s.22)

2. This act shall take effect immediately and apply to financial disclosure statements filed in 2023 and thereafter.

STATEMENT

This bill removes the requirement that local government officers disclose their property addresses, including their home address, in certain financial disclosure statements. Instead, this bill will only require local government officers to disclose the county and municipality where their property is located.