

**ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. 166**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 21, 2022

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman CRAIG J. COUGHLIN

District 19 (Middlesex)

Assemblyman JOHN DIMAIO

District 23 (Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren)

SYNOPSIS

Amends Legislative Code of Ethics to remove requirement that legislators disclose their property addresses.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/21/2022)

1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** amending the Legislative Code of
2 Ethics with regard to financial disclosure statements.

3
4 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New*
5 *Jersey (the Senate concurring):*

6
7 1. Section 2:14 of the Legislative Code of Ethics is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 2:14. a. No later than May 15 of each year, each member of the
10 Senate and General Assembly shall file with the Joint Legislative
11 Committee on Ethical Standards or any successor thereto a financial
12 disclosure statement, on a form to be prescribed by the Joint
13 Legislative Committee on Ethical Standards or its successor, with
14 respect to the member's, the member's spouse's and minor children's
15 sources of income, received from sources other than the State
16 Legislature, and liabilities, amounts thereof, and interests, during
17 the preceding calendar year. The filing may be in electronic form,
18 including signature. Each member of the Legislature shall have a
19 continuing obligation to report any termination or assumption of
20 public employment by the member or the member's spouse within
21 30 days, which report shall be an addendum to the disclosure
22 statement.

23 The Joint Legislative Committee on Ethical Standards shall
24 prescribe the information necessary to identification of sources.
25 When an amount is required to be reported, it shall be sufficient to
26 comply with the requirement to disclose whether the amount is less
27 than \$10,000, at least \$10,000 but less than \$25,000, at least
28 \$25,000 but less than \$50,000, or \$50,000 or more. The statement
29 shall include an enumeration of:

30 (1) Each of the following categories of earned income: salaries,
31 bonuses, royalties, fees, commissions and profit sharing paid to the
32 member, the member's spouse or the member's minor child as an
33 officer, employee, partner or consultant of a named corporation,
34 professional association, partnership or sole proprietorship;

35 (2) Each of the following categories of unearned income: rents,
36 dividends and other income received by the member, the member's
37 spouse or minor child from named investments, trusts and estates;

38 (3) Fees and honorariums for personal appearances, speeches or
39 writings received by the member or the member's spouse from
40 named payers;

41 (4) Reimbursements or prepaid expenses for travel, subsistence
42 or facilities provided in kind received by the member, the member's
43 spouse or minor child from named payers or providers other than
44 the State, indicating whether the payer or provider is a profit,
45 nonprofit or governmental entity;

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 (5) Gifts from named donors connected to the legislative process
2 received by the member, the member's spouse or minor child;

3 (6) The amounts of all personal liabilities of the member and the
4 member's spouse, except liabilities which are (a) less than \$15,000
5 and owed to a relative; (b) less than \$3,000 and owed to any other
6 person; (c) loans secured by a personal motor vehicle, or household
7 furniture or appliances; and (d) revolving charge accounts. As used
8 in this subsection, "relative" means a son, daughter, grandson,
9 granddaughter, father, mother, grandfather, grandmother, great-
10 grandfather, great-grandmother, brother, sister, nephew, niece,
11 uncle or aunt. Relatives by adoption, half-blood, marriage or
12 remarriage shall be treated as relatives of the whole kinship;

13 (7) The amounts of all personal liabilities otherwise subject to
14 disclosure, pursuant to paragraph (6) of this section, of the member
15 and the member's spouse, that have been forgiven by the creditor
16 within 12 months prior to the statement date. For each forgiven
17 liability, the name of the creditor to whom such a liability was owed
18 shall be stated;

19 (8) The name and address of all business organizations in which
20 the member or the member's spouse held an "interest" as defined in
21 section 2 of P.L.1971, c.182 (C.52:13D-13);

22 (9) Any offices, trusteeships, directorships, or positions of any
23 nature, whether compensated or uncompensated, held by the
24 member or the member's spouse, with any firm, corporation,
25 association, partnership or business; and

26 (10) **【The address and】** A brief description, including the county
27 and municipality where located, of all real property in which the
28 member, the member's spouse or a minor child held an interest.

29 b. The failure of a member of the Legislature to file a statement
30 as required by this section shall be reported to the President of the
31 Senate or Speaker of the General Assembly.

32 c. The Joint Legislative Committee on Ethical Standards or its
33 successor after review of statements filed pursuant to this section
34 may by advisory opinion determine that in its opinion a particular
35 category of income, reimbursements, gifts, real estate holdings or
36 business interests gives rise to an appearance of conflict with the
37 member's service as a member of the Legislature.

38 d. Advisory opinions issued pursuant to subsection c. shall be
39 public records and shall remain on file for 10 years from the date of
40 issuance.

41
42 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately and apply to
43 financial disclosure statements filed in 2023 and thereafter.

44
45
46 STATEMENT

47
48 This concurrent resolution amends the Legislative Code of Ethics

ACR166 COUGHLIN, DIMAIO

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1 to remove the requirement that legislators disclose their property
2 addresses, including their home address, in annual financial
3 disclosure statements. Instead, legislators will only be required to
4 disclose the county and municipality where their property is
5 located. This resolution will take effect immediately and apply to
6 financial disclosure statements filed in 2023 and thereafter.