

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 132

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 1, 2022

Sponsored by:

Senator NICHOLAS P. SCUTARI

District 22 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union)

Senator NELLIE POU

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

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

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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

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

SCR132 SCUTARI, POU

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1 .STATEMENT

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