## [First Reprint] 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 address of their home or principal residence.

## **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Senate Judiciary Committee on February 23, 2023, with amendments.



A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION amending the Legislative Code of

Ethics with regard to financial disclosure statements.

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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 respect to the member's, the member's spouse's and minor children's 14 15 sources of income, received from sources other than the State 16 Legislature, and liabilities, amounts thereof, and interests, during the 17 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 30 days, which report shall be an addendum to the disclosure statement. 21 22 <sup>1</sup>As part of the disclosure statement, the member shall certify that 23 the member is a resident of the legislative district for which they were elected to serve in the Legislature.<sup>1</sup> 24 25 The Joint Legislative Committee on Ethical Standards shall 26 prescribe the information necessary to identification of sources. When 27 an amount is required to be reported, it shall be sufficient to comply with the requirement to disclose whether the amount is less than 28 29 \$10,000, at least \$10,000 but less than \$25,000, at least \$25,000 but 30 less than \$50,000, or \$50,000 or more. The statement shall include an 31 enumeration of: 32 (1) Each of the following categories of earned income: salaries, bonuses, royalties, fees, commissions and profit sharing paid to the 33 34 member, the member's spouse or the member's minor child as an 35 officer, employee, partner or consultant of a named corporation, 36 professional association, partnership or sole proprietorship; 37 (2) Each of the following categories of unearned income: rents, 38 dividends and other income received by the member, the member's 39 spouse or minor child from named investments, trusts and estates; 40 (3) Fees and honorariums for personal appearances, speeches or 41 writings received by the member or the member's spouse from named 42 payers; (4) Reimbursements or prepaid expenses for travel, subsistence or 43 44 facilities provided in kind received by the member, the member's 45 spouse or minor child from named payers or providers other than the 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: <sup>1</sup>Senate SJU committee amendments adopted February 23, 2023.

State, indicating whether the payer or provider is a profit, nonprofit or
 governmental entity;

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

5 (6) The amounts of all personal liabilities of the member and the 6 member's spouse, except liabilities which are (a) less than \$15,000 and 7 owed to a relative; (b) less than \$3,000 and owed to any other person; 8 (c) loans secured by a personal motor vehicle, or household furniture 9 or appliances; and (d) revolving charge accounts. As used in this 10 subsection, "relative" means a son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter, 11 father, mother, grandfather, grandmother, great-grandfather, great-12 grandmother, brother, sister, nephew, niece, uncle or aunt. Relatives 13 by adoption, half-blood, marriage or remarriage shall be treated as 14 relatives of the whole kinship;

15 (7) The amounts of all personal liabilities otherwise subject to 16 disclosure, pursuant to paragraph (6) of this section, of the member 17 and the member's spouse, that have been forgiven by the creditor 18 within 12 months prior to the statement date. For each forgiven 19 liability, the name of the creditor to whom such a liability was owed 20 shall be stated;

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

(9) Any offices, trusteeships, directorships, or positions of any
nature, whether compensated or uncompensated, held by the member
or the member's spouse, with any firm, corporation, association,
partnership or business; <sup>1</sup>[and]<sup>1</sup>

(10) [The address and] <sup>1</sup>[<u>A</u>] <u>The address and a</u><sup>1</sup> brief
description, including the county and municipality where located, of
all real property in which the member, the member's spouse or a minor
child held an interest <sup>1</sup>, excluding the address, description, county, or
<u>municipality of the principal or secondary residence of the member,</u>
the spouse, or the minor child; and

(11) The address and a brief description, including the county and
 municipality where located, of all real property from which the
 member, the member's spouse, or a minor child derived income,
 including any such property where the member, spouse, or minor child
 resided for any period of time during the preceding calendar year<sup>1</sup>.

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

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

## **SCR132** [1R] SCUTARI, POU 4

d. Advisory opinions issued pursuant to subsection c. shall be 1 public records and shall remain on file for 10 years from the date of 2 issuance. 3

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- 5 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately and apply to
- financial disclosure statements filed in 2023 and thereafter. 6