

ASSEMBLY, No. 4443

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 20, 2024

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman BENJIE E. WIMBERLY

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Provides for voluntary contributions by taxpayers on gross income tax returns to State aid for public schools.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning voluntary contributions through New Jersey
2 gross income tax returns for State aid for public schools and
3 supplementing Title 54A of the New Jersey Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. a. There is established in the Department of the Treasury a
9 special fund to be known as the “School Aid Contribution Fund.”

10 b. Each taxpayer shall have the opportunity to indicate on the
11 taxpayer’s New Jersey gross income tax return that a portion of the
12 taxpayer’s gross income tax refund or an enclosed contribution be
13 deposited in the “School Aid Contribution Fund” for the purpose of
14 funding State school aid above what is appropriated by the
15 Legislature pursuant to P.L.2007, c.260 (C.18A:7F-43 et al.).

16 c. Any costs incurred by the Division of Taxation for collection
17 or administration attributable to the “School Aid Contribution
18 Fund” may be deducted from receipts collected pursuant to this
19 section, as determined by the Director of the Division of Budget
20 and Accounting. The State shall deposit net contributions collected
21 pursuant to this section into the “School Aid Contribution Fund.”

22 d. The Legislature shall annually appropriate all funds
23 deposited in the “School Aid Contribution Fund” established
24 pursuant to subsection a. of this section to the Department of
25 Education which shall annually distribute the monies received from
26 the “School Aid Contribution Fund” to school districts pursuant to
27 the “School Funding Reform Act of 2008,” P.L.2007, c.260
28 (C.18A:7F-43 et al.). Any monies appropriated from the fund to the
29 department shall not be used to supplant the amount of State funds
30 appropriated for State school aid in the prior fiscal year.

31
32 2. This act shall take effect immediately and apply to taxable
33 years beginning on or after January 1 next following the date of
34 enactment.

35

36

37

STATEMENT

38

39 This bill allows taxpayers to contribute a portion of their New
40 Jersey gross income tax refund towards State aid for public schools.

41 Taxpayers may indicate on their gross income tax return that a
42 portion of their tax refund be deposited into the “School Aid
43 Contribution Fund.” The Legislature will use the funds collected to
44 supplement State school aid in addition to, and not in place of, the
45 annual appropriation for State school aid. Any funds collected may
46 not be used to supplant the amount of State funds appropriated to
47 State school aid from the prior fiscal year.