

SENATE, No. 1791

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 7, 2016

Sponsored by:

Senator ANTHONY R. BUCCO

District 25 (Morris and Somerset)

SYNOPSIS

Provides gross income tax credit for certain costs of home bedbug infestation remediation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT providing a gross income tax credit for certain costs of
2 home bedbug infestation remediation, supplementing Title 54A
3 of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. A taxpayer having gross income for the taxable year not
9 in excess of \$100,000, \$50,000 for a married person or a domestic
10 partner filing separately, shall be allowed a credit against the tax
11 otherwise due for the taxable year under the "New Jersey Gross
12 Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., in an amount equal to 15%
13 of the costs of services for the remediation of, and the costs of
14 personal property purchased to replace personal property rendered
15 unusable because of, bedbug infestation in the taxpayer's principal
16 residence, not to exceed \$500 per taxable year, \$250 for a married
17 person or a domestic partner filing separately.

18 If the credit allowed pursuant to this section for a taxable year,
19 together with any other payments or credits against the tax, reduces
20 the tax liability otherwise due for the taxable year to zero, any
21 amount of the credit allowed pursuant to this section remaining
22 shall be paid to the taxpayer as a refund of an overpayment of tax
23 pursuant to N.J.S.54A:9-7, provided however, subsection (f) of that
24 section, concerning the allowance of interest, shall not apply.

25 b. As used in this section:

26 "Bedbug" means an insect of the species "Cimex lectularius,"
27 commonly referred to as a bedbug.

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

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STATEMENT

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36 This bill provides a gross income tax credit of up to \$500 for
37 some of the immediate and consequential costs of remediating a
38 bedbug infestation in the taxpayer's home.

39 Bedbugs are small parasitic insects that can feed off of the blood
40 of humans and tend to multiply in areas where people sleep. While
41 the bites are not usually painful, bites can produce large, itchy welts
42 on the skin, and the bites may cause more severe reactions in
43 persons who are allergic. Infestations may result from the insects
44 being transported into homes on clothing or luggage from hotels or
45 other public place of accommodation, or on household items to
46 which the bugs have attached.

47 The bill allows a taxpayer with annual gross income of \$100,000
48 or less (\$50,000 for a married person or a domestic partner filing

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1 separately) a credit against the gross income tax for 15% of the
2 taxpayer's cost of services for the remediation of a bedbug
3 infestation in the taxpayer's principal residence and 15% of the cost
4 of personal property (mattresses, rugs and upholstered furniture are
5 the usual hiding places) purchased to replace personal property
6 rendered unusable by a bedbug infestation in the taxpayer's
7 principal residence. The amount of a credit is limited to \$500 per
8 taxable year (\$250 for a married person or domestic partner filing
9 separately).

10 The tax credit is refundable if the amount of the credit exceeds
11 the taxpayer's liability.