

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 5625

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 18, 2019

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 5625.

Assembly Bill No. 5625 amends the "The Gubernatorial Transition Act" to authorize payment of expenses related to confidential character, financial, and criminal background investigations, sometimes referred to as "four-way investigations," of certain applicants for positions in the Governor-elect's transition team.

Under current law, the Director of the Division of Purchase and Property is authorized to provide necessary services and facilities to each Governor-elect for the purpose of preparing for assuming official duties as Governor. These services and facilities include suitable office space appropriately equipped with furniture, furnishings, office machines and equipment, and office supplies; payment of compensation to the members of office staffs designated by the Governor-elect; payment of expenses to procure services of experts, consultants, or organizations; payment of travel expenses and subsistence allowances for intermittent employees or volunteers; communications services found necessary by the Governor-elect; and payment of expenses for necessary printing and binding.

This bill adds to this list of transition payments those expenses related to confidential character, financial, and criminal background investigations of applicants for positions of a lower rank than cabinet-level when deemed necessary by the Governor-elect or the Governor-elect's designated assistant.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services estimates that enactment of this bill will result in an indeterminate increase in State expenditures. The Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations Act allocated \$250,000 to support costs incurred by the Governor-Elect during the most recent gubernatorial transition.