

# ASSEMBLY, No. 4990

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 16, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman EDWARD H. THOMSON**

**District 30 (Monmouth and Ocean)**

**Assemblyman SEAN T. KEAN**

**District 30 (Monmouth and Ocean)**

**Assemblyman KEVIN J. ROONEY**

**District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Prohibits State aid and grants to municipalities that reduce law enforcement budgets by certain amount.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/10/2020)**

1 AN ACT concerning State aid and grants to municipalities and  
2 supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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7 1. a. (1) The Director of the Division of Local Government  
8 Services in the Department of Community Affairs, as part of its  
9 review of municipal budgets, shall determine the percentage change  
10 in the appropriation for law enforcement services from the previous  
11 budget year for each municipality, and shall, no later than  
12 November 1 of each year, create a list of municipalities that have  
13 reduced the appropriation for law enforcement services by 25 or  
14 more percent from the previous budget year.

15 (2) Upon creation of the list pursuant to paragraph (1) of this  
16 subsection, the director shall immediately notify each municipality  
17 of its inclusion on the list. Within 30 days of receipt of the notice, a  
18 municipality may apply to the director for an exemption from the  
19 list on the basis that its inclusion is the result of a miscalculation or  
20 other error, the municipality entering into a shared service  
21 agreement or joint contract for law enforcement services, or other  
22 reasonable basis as determined by the director. After considering  
23 and making determinations with respect to applications for  
24 exemptions made pursuant to this paragraph, the director shall  
25 certify a final list of municipalities that have reduced the  
26 appropriation for law enforcement services by 25 or more percent  
27 from the previous budget year, and that have not been granted an  
28 exemption.

29 (3) The director shall, no later than January 1 of each year,  
30 forward the final list of municipalities certified pursuant to  
31 paragraph (2) of this subsection, to the State Treasurer.

32 b. If a municipality is included on the final list reported to the  
33 State Treasurer by the Director of the Division of Local  
34 Government Services in a State fiscal year pursuant to subsection a.  
35 of this section, then the State Treasurer shall not distribute any  
36 Consolidated Municipal Property Tax Relief Aid, Energy Tax  
37 Receipts Property Tax Relief Aid, Extraordinary Aid or Transitional  
38 Aid to Localities, or any combination thereof in the next succeeding  
39 State fiscal year.

40 c. The Director of the Division of Local Government Services,  
41 in coordination with the State Treasurer, shall ensure that a State  
42 grant is not awarded to a municipality, which is included on the  
43 final list reported to the State Treasurer by the Director of the  
44 Division of Local Government Services in a State fiscal year  
45 pursuant to subsection a. of this section, in the next succeeding  
46 State fiscal year.

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48 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

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This bill would prohibit municipalities that reduce their law enforcement budgets by 25 percent or more from receiving any State aid or grants in the next succeeding State fiscal year. The Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs would annually determine which municipalities, if any, are to be subject to the provisions of the bill. The bill provides a municipality the opportunity to seek exemption from the list on the basis that its inclusion is the result of a miscalculation or other error, the municipality entering into a shared service agreement or joint contract for law enforcement services, or other reasonable basis as determined by the director.