

ASSEMBLY, No. 2525

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 5, 1996

By Assemblywoman WEINBERG and Assemblyman ZISA

1 AN ACT concerning contribution limits by counties and municipalities  
2 to volunteer first aid, ambulance and rescue squads and amending  
3 R.S.40:5-2.

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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. R.S.40:5-2 is amended to read as follows:  
9 40:5-2. Any county or municipality may make a voluntary  
10 contribution of not more than ~~[\$35,000.00]~~ \$70,000 annually to any  
11 duly incorporated first aid and emergency or volunteer ambulance or  
12 rescue squad association of the county, or of any municipality therein,  
13 rendering service generally throughout the county, or any of the  
14 municipalities thereof. In addition, if any such associations experience  
15 extraordinary need, the county or municipality may contribute an  
16 additional amount of not more than \$35,000.00 annually; provided,  
17 however, that the need for such additional funds is established by the  
18 association and is directly related to the performance of said  
19 association's duties. Whenever the total annual county or municipal  
20 contribution to an association exceeds ~~[\$35,000.00]~~ \$70,000, the chief  
21 financial officer of the county or municipality shall receive an audit  
22 performed by a certified public accountant or a registered municipal  
23 accountant of each association's financial records for the current year  
24 which shall certify to the governing body of the county or municipality  
25 that such records are being maintained in accordance with sound  
26 accounting principles.

27 Any county or municipality may appropriate such additional sums  
28 as it may deem necessary for the purchase of first aid, ambulance,  
29 rescue or other emergency vehicles, equipment, supplies and materials  
30 for use by these associations, the title to which shall remain with the  
31 county or municipality, provided that the funds are controlled and  
32 disbursed by the county or municipality.

33 In the case of a joint purchase made by the governing bodies of two  
34 or more local units pursuant to the provisions of the "Consolidated

**EXPLANATION** - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 Municipal Services Act," P.L.1952, c.72 (C.40:48B-1 et seq.), the title  
2 to the purchase shall be held by the joint meeting formed by the  
3 contracting governing bodies.

4 (cf: P.L.1987, c.31, s.1)

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6 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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11 This bill would increase the amount of aid that a county or  
12 municipality can provide annually to a volunteer first aid, rescue or  
13 ambulance company from \$35,000 to \$70,000. R.S.40:5-2 places an  
14 upper limit on the amount of aid that a county or municipality may  
15 provide to a volunteer first aid, ambulance or rescue squad. The  
16 sponsor believes that this upper limit must be increased to keep pace  
17 with rising material costs and mandated expenses such as required  
18 medical testing of all volunteers for several infectious diseases.

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24 Increases contribution limit by counties and municipalities to volunteer  
first aid, ambulance and rescue squads.