

SENATE, No. 1148

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 16, 1996

By Senator BAER

1 AN ACT requiring the Joint Budget Oversight Committee to develop
2 a fiscal plan to phase in full homestead property tax rebates,
3 supplementing P.L.1990, c.61 (C.54:4-8.57 et seq.).
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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. In order to restore the full level of property tax relief to all
9 property tax payers as provided in the "Homestead Property Tax
10 Rebate Act of 1990," P.L.1990, c.61 (C.54:4-8.57 et seq.), in a fiscally
11 prudent manner that will not result in adverse impacts upon other
12 State programs beneficial to State and local taxpayers, the Joint
13 Budget Oversight Committee shall develop a multi-year fiscal plan to
14 phase in full homestead property tax rebates to all claimants as
15 provided under P.L.1990, c.61. Copies of the plan shall be provided
16 by the committee to the Governor, the President of the Senate and the
17 Speaker of the General Assembly.
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19 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
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22 STATEMENT
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24 This bill requires the Joint Budget Oversight Committee to develop
25 a fiscally prudent plant to phase in a resumption of the statutory
26 homestead property tax rebate program for all New Jersey claimants.
27 The original 1990 statutory program provided a minimum property
28 tax rebate of \$150 to homeowners with less than \$70,000 annual
29 income and a minimum rebate of \$100 to homeowners with annual
30 income between \$70,000 and \$100,000. Tenants were guaranteed a
31 minimum rebate of \$65 at annual incomes below \$70,000 and \$35 for
32 annual incomes between \$70,000 and \$100,000.

33 Since fiscal year 1993 the statutory homestead property tax rebate
34 program has been suspended by provisions of annual appropriations
35 acts and provides full statutory homestead property tax rebate benefits
36 to only senior citizens and disabled residents. Residents with annual
37 income of \$40,000 or less who are not seniors or disabled may receive,

1 according to language in the annual appropriations act, a rebate of \$30
2 for tenants and \$90 for homeowners.

3 The homestead property tax rebate program under the original 1990
4 statutory program provides middle income property tax payers with
5 an effective manner of reducing the impact of increasing property
6 taxes. Additionally, the statutory program returns a higher rebate for
7 lower income citizens who are least able to absorb the effects of
8 property tax increases.

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13 Requires the Joint Budget Oversight Committee to develop a plan to
14 re-establish the full Homestead Rebate program.