

[Fourth Reprint]

SENATE, No. 598

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

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Senator JOSEPH P. CRYAN

District 20 (Union)

Assemblyman KEVIN J. ROONEY

District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)

Assemblyman ROBERT J. KARABINCHAK

District 18 (Middlesex)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Addiego, Gopal, T.Kean, O'Scanlon, Thompson, Turner, Diegnan, Assemblymen Verrelli, Peterson, Mazzeo, Armato, DiMaio, Assemblywomen Chaparro, Quijano, Reynolds-Jackson, Assemblyman Zwicker, Assemblywoman Sumter, Assemblymen Mejia and Wimberly

SYNOPSIS

Raises pay for election workers to \$300 per day; appropriates \$7,000,000 to Department of State.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly State and Local Government Committee on November 15, 2021, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/2/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning compensation for election workers and
 2 amending R.S.19:45-6 and P.L.2001, c.245 and making an
 3 appropriation.
 4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
 6 *of New Jersey:*
 7

8 1. R.S.19:45-6 is amended to read as follows:

9 19:45-6. The compensation of each member of the district
 10 boards for all services performed by them under the provisions of this
 11 Title shall be as follows:

12 In all counties, for all services rendered including the counting of
 13 the votes, and in counties wherein voting machines are used, the
 14 tabulation of the votes registered on the voting machines, and the
 15 delivery of the returns, registry binders, ballot boxes and keys for the
 16 voting machines to the proper election officials, ~~[\$200]~~ ¹[\$300]
 17 ²[\$275¹] ⁴[\$400 or the State minimum wage required pursuant to
 18 Article I, paragraph 23 of the New Jersey Constitution, whichever is
 19 greater,²] \$300⁴ each time the primary election, the general election or
 20 any special election is held under this Title; provided, however, that:

21 a. (1) The member of the board charged with the duty of
 22 obtaining and signing for the signature copy registers shall receive an
 23 additional \$12.50 per election, such remuneration being limited to only
 24 one board member per election, or \$6.25 to each of two board
 25 members if they share such responsibility for the signature copy
 26 registers, and (2) the member of the board charged with the duty of
 27 returning the signature copy registers shall receive an additional
 28 \$12.50 per election, such remuneration being limited to only one board
 29 member per election, or \$6.25 to each of two board members if they
 30 share such responsibility for the signature copy registers;

31 b. In the case of any member of the board who is required under
 32 R.S.19:50-1 to attend in a given year a training program for district
 33 board members, ³[but who] ⁴[the member shall receive \$50.00 after
 34 the completion of the training program. If the member³] but who⁴
 35 fails to attend such a training program in that year, that compensation
 36 ⁴[³for the member³] ⁴ shall be \$50.00 for each of those elections;

37 c. In counties wherein voting machines are used no compensation
 38 shall be paid for any services rendered at any special election held at
 39 the same time as any primary or general election. Such compensation
 40 shall be in lieu of all other fees and payments; and

41 d. Compensation for district board members serving at a school
 42 election held at a time other than the time of the general election shall

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SSG committee amendments adopted February 10, 2020.

²Senate SBA committee amendments adopted June 21, 2021.

³Senate floor amendments adopted June 30, 2021.

⁴Assembly ASL committee amendments adopted November 15, 2021.

1 be paid by the board of education of the school district conducting the
 2 election at an hourly rate of \$5.77, except that the board of education
 3 may compensate such district board members at a pro-rated hourly rate
 4 consistent with the daily rate up to a maximum of ¹[\$14.29] \$19.64¹.
 5 The provisions of subsections a., b., and c. of this section shall also
 6 apply to district board members serving at a school election held at a
 7 time other than at the time of the general election, except that in the
 8 case of subsection b., the compensation shall be at an hourly rate of
 9 \$3.85.

10 Compensation due each member shall be paid within 30 days but
 11 not within 20 days after each election; provided, however, that no
 12 compensation shall be paid to any member of any such district board
 13 who may have been removed from office or application for the
 14 removal of whom is pending under the provisions of R.S.19:6-4.

15 ⁴In the case of any member of the board who is required under
 16 R.S.19:50-1 to attend in a given year a training program for district
 17 board members, a county may provide, at its discretion, compensation
 18 to such a member who attends the training program in an amount
 19 determined by the county, and the compensation shall be an expense of
 20 the county.⁴

21 (cf: P.L.2011, c.202, s.32)

22
 23 2. Section 6 of P.L.2001, c.245 (C.19:45-6.2) is amended to read
 24 as follows:

25 6. In accordance with the provisions of Art.VIII, Sec.II, par.5 of
 26 the Constitution, upon application for reimbursement by a county
 27 governing body to the ²[Attorney General] Secretary of State² and
 28 approval of the application by the Director of the Division of Budget
 29 and Accounting, a county shall be reimbursed by the State for:

30 a. compensation to each member of the district board of elections
 31 who shall have served at the general election, the primary election, and
 32 any nonpartisan municipal, special, or recall election, and who shall
 33 have qualified for and been paid [\$200] ¹[\$300] ²[\$275¹] ⁴[\$400 or
 34 the State minimum wage required pursuant to Article I, paragraph 23
 35 of the New Jersey Constitution, whichever is greater,²] \$300⁴ for such
 36 service in accordance with R.S.19:45-6, the sum ²[of]² [\$125]
 37 ¹[\$225] ²[\$200¹] ⁴[equal to the compensation paid less \$75²] of
 38 \$225⁴; and

39 b. any additional costs incurred by the county as a result of the
 40 provisions of this act, ²[P.L.2001, c.245] ⁴[P.L.____, c.____ (pending
 41 before the Legislature as this bill)²] P.L.2001, c.245⁴.

42 (cf: P.L.2001, c.245, s.6)

43
 44 3. There is appropriated from the State General Fund to the
 45 Department of State the sum of ⁴[\$5,000,000] \$7,000,000⁴ to be

1 distributed among the counties subject to the requirements of
2 ²~~sections 1 and~~ section 6 of P.L.2001, c.245 (C.19:45-6.2), as
3 amended by section² 2 of this act, P.L. , c. (pending before the
4 Legislature as this bill), as reimbursement for the costs of
5 implementing the provisions of this act.

6

7 4. This act shall take effect immediately.