

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 598

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 22, 2021

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 598 (1R).

This bill increases the compensation of election workers from \$200 per day to \$400 per day or the State minimum wage, whichever is greater.

Under current law, election workers are paid \$200 per day each time the primary election, the general election, or any special election is held. The State reimburses \$125 of the payment to election workers while the counties account for the rest. This bill increases the State's reimbursement while keeping the counties' sum at \$75.

The bill appropriates from the State General Fund to the Department of State the sum of \$5,000,000 to reimburse the counties for the costs of implementing the bill's provisions.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The amendments proposed:

- (1) increase the pay for election workers from \$275 per day to \$400 per day or the State minimum wage, whichever is greater;
- (2) clarify that the Secretary of State handles election reimbursement matters rather than the Attorney General; and
- (3) revises the reimbursement formula to the counties to clarify that counties will only be responsible for \$75 of an election worker's pay.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Fiscal information is currently unavailable for this bill.