

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 762

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 4, 2010

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 762.

This bill requires the State Treasurer to prepare a report detailing various regional impacts caused by the conversion of federal military housing to civilian housing at the Earle Naval Weapons Station located in parts of Colts Neck Township and Middletown Township in Monmouth County. Specifically, the report will examine the economic impact of the military to civilian housing conversion on the local county, municipal, and school district taxpayers, with a cost-benefit analysis of the additional housing units related to any increased school district and municipal services costs; the security impact on surrounding municipalities of housing civilians on a military base; and the increased school district and municipal costs that will be required to adequately address any anticipated increased infrastructure requirements. The report must be issued within six months of enactment and be distributed to the Governor, the Legislature, the Departments of Education, Environmental Protection and Transportation, and various local school and government officials so that these policy makers have sufficient information to properly plan for the conversion. During the period of time that the report is being prepared, the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Transportation will be prohibited from issuing any permits or approving any plans associated with the housing conversion.

FISCAL IMPACT:

In a Legislative Fiscal Estimate prepared for this bill the Office of Legislative Services noted that the bill may result in an indeterminate increase in State costs. Several Executive Departments and State agencies, including the Department of the Treasury and the Office of Homeland Security may have to use additional resources to complete the cost-benefit, economic, and security impact studies required by the bill. If the departments and agencies are able to reallocate current resources to fulfill the mandate of the bill, then no additional costs may be incurred.