

SENATE, No. 2566

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 215th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 7, 2013

Sponsored by:

Senator PAUL A. SARLO

District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)

Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Beck, Gill and Weinberg

SYNOPSIS

Imposes oversight upon Hurricane Sandy recovery funds.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/27/2013)

1 AN ACT imposing oversight upon Hurricane Sandy recovery funds,
2 supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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7 1. a. The State Treasurer shall maintain a public website
8 dedicated to the dissemination and transparent administration of
9 Hurricane Sandy recovery funding. The State Treasurer shall make
10 available on the website New Jersey's Comprehensive Quarterly
11 Report on Hurricane Sandy Recovery Funding, as constructed
12 pursuant to subsection b. of this section.

13 In addition to public dissemination of the report, the State
14 Treasurer shall, to the extent the information is available, administer
15 the website to provide detailed information on: the distribution of
16 Hurricane Sandy recovery funding by county and municipality, the
17 issuance of each State contract associated with Hurricane Sandy
18 recovery funding including, but not limited to, the purpose of the
19 contract, the amount of the contract's consideration, whether the bid
20 was subject to public bidding, and background information on the
21 State contract recipient's qualification for receipt of the State contract,
22 the issuance of each State grant associated with Hurricane Sandy
23 recovery funding including, but not limited to, the purpose of the
24 grant, the amount of the grant, whether the grant was subject to a
25 selective award process and the nature of that process, and background
26 information on the State grant recipient's qualification for receipt of
27 the State grant, and any other information the State Treasurer deems
28 relevant to the transparent administration of Hurricane Sandy recovery
29 funding.

30 The State Treasurer shall have ten business days within which to
31 update the website relative to the receipt of information concerning the
32 award of a State contract or State grant or distribution of Hurricane
33 Sandy recovery funding.

34 b. The State Treasurer shall provide a report to the Legislature,
35 in accordance with section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), and
36 the Governor concerning the receipt, distribution, and administration
37 of Hurricane Sandy recovery funding, which report shall be due on the
38 first business day of each calendar quarter commencing after the date
39 of enactment of this section and shall be entitled New Jersey's
40 Comprehensive Quarterly Report on Hurricane Sandy Recovery
41 Funding.

42 The report shall contain detailed information concerning: the
43 amount of Hurricane Sandy recovery funding the State has received,
44 the manner in which Hurricane Sandy recovery funding is received,
45 the processes by which Hurricane Sandy recovery funding is
46 distributed upon initial receipt, State operating plans for Hurricane
47 Sandy recovery funding projects and administration, the award of State
48 grants or State contracts using Hurricane Sandy recovery funding, the

1 identity of Hurricane Sandy recovery funding State grant and contract
2 recipients, analysis of whether the use of Hurricane Sandy recovery
3 funding is accomplishing its intended purpose, the number of jobs
4 created by Hurricane Sandy recovery funding State administered
5 projects, recommendations for enhanced efficiency and transparency
6 in the administration of Hurricane Sandy recovery funding,
7 recommendations for enhanced coordination in Hurricane Sandy
8 recovery efforts, and any other information the State Treasurer deems
9 relevant to the transparent administration of Hurricane Sandy recovery
10 funding.

11 c. The State Treasurer may provide the Legislature, in
12 accordance with section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), and the
13 Governor with a priority report on Hurricane Sandy recovery
14 funding at any time as the State Treasurer deems appropriate. A
15 priority report shall be reserved for administrative problems
16 associated with Hurricane Sandy recovery funding requiring
17 immediate attention of the Legislature and the Governor.

18 d. The website and reports required pursuant to this section
19 shall not be used to distribute information which if disclosed would
20 jeopardize compliance with State or federal law, threaten public
21 health, welfare, or safety, or harm the competitive economic
22 position of a party.

23 e. As used in this section:

24 “Hurricane Sandy recovery funding” means (1) funds provided
25 pursuant to federal legislation enacted by the 113th Congress of the
26 United States of America which contains, but is not limited to,
27 disaster assistance for impacts associated with Hurricane Sandy, or
28 other major storms, in New Jersey; and (2) funds disbursed through
29 the State treasury for undertakings to address the damage associated
30 with the State of Emergency identified in the Governor’s Executive
31 Order 104, dated October 27, 2012, concerning Hurricane Sandy,
32 which undertakings shall include emergency operations, loss
33 reimbursement, repairs, rebuilding, restorations, reconstruction,
34 removal of debris, temporary housing, household assistance, relief,
35 hazard mitigation improvements, construction, and other recovery
36 and rebuilding activities deemed by the State Treasurer to be
37 associated with Hurricane Sandy recovery and rebuilding.

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39 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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44 This bill imposes oversight upon Hurricane Sandy recovery
45 funding by: (i) establishing a Hurricane Sandy recovery funding
46 transparency website; (ii) requiring comprehensive quarterly reports
47 on Hurricane Sandy recovery funding; and (iii) requiring expedited
48 priority reports for administrative problems encountered in

1 Hurricane Sandy recovery funding to enable prompt responses. The
2 purpose of this bill is to ensure the transparent and efficient
3 administration of Hurricane Sandy recovery funding.

4 The bill requires the State Treasurer to establish a website
5 dedicated to transparent administration of Hurricane Sandy
6 recovery funding. The bill directs that the website shall contain, to
7 the extent available, detailed information on Hurricane Sandy
8 recovery funding by county and municipality and detailed information
9 on State contract and grant recipients. The bill also requires that the
10 website must provide access to New Jersey' Comprehensive
11 Quarterly Report on Hurricane Sandy Recovery Funding, as
12 prepared by the State Treasurer. The bill requires the State Treasurer
13 to update the website within ten business days of the receipt of
14 information concerning the award of a State contract or State grant or
15 distribution of Hurricane Sandy recovery funding.

16 The bill requires that New Jersey's Comprehensive Quarterly
17 Report on Hurricane Sandy Recovery Funding must contain
18 information on the amounts, manner of receipt, and distribution
19 processes for Hurricane Sandy recovery funding. The bill further
20 specifies that the report must include operating plans for State
21 projects and administration and detailed information on the issuance
22 of State contracts and grants involving Hurricane Sandy recovery
23 funding. The bill directs the State Treasurer to include in the report
24 an analysis on the effectiveness of Hurricane Sandy recovery
25 funding in accomplishing its intended purpose and the number of
26 jobs created by State administered projects associated with
27 Hurricane Sandy recovery funding. The bill also requires that the
28 report include the State Treasurer's recommendations for enhanced
29 efficiency, transparency, and coordination in Hurricane Sandy
30 recovery efforts.

31 The bill authorizes the State Treasurer to provide expedient
32 priority reports on administrative problems associated with
33 Hurricane Sandy recovery funding. The bill denotes that a priority
34 report may be provided at any time for administrative problems
35 requiring the immediate attention of the Legislature and the
36 Governor.

37 The bill denotes that the website and reports created by the bill
38 shall be restricted in content to prevent the dissemination of
39 information which if disclosed would jeopardize legal compliance,
40 public health, welfare, or safety, or a competitive economic
41 position.