

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3101

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 14, 2019

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3101, with committee amendments.

This bill increases the minimum dollar amounts that the Director of the Division of Taxation must allocate for cultural projects, historical heritage programs, and tourism advertisement and promotion.

Current law requires the director to allocate 22.68 percent of the total hotel and motel occupancy fees collected to the New Jersey State Council on the Arts for cultural projects, provided that the actual dollar amount allocated is at least \$22.68 million. This bill increases the minimum dollar amount that the director must allocate for cultural projects to \$31.9 million.

Current law requires the director to allocate 3.84 percent of hotel and motel occupancy fees collected to the New Jersey Historical Commission for historical heritage purposes, provided that at least \$3.84 million is allocated. This bill increases the minimum dollar amount that the director must allocate for historical heritage purposes to \$5.5 million.

Current law requires the director to allocate 12.76 percent of hotel and motel occupancy fees collected to the Division of Travel and Tourism in the Department of State for tourism advertisement and promotion, provided at least \$12.76 million is allocated. This bill increases the minimum dollar amount that the director must allocate for tourism advertisement and promotion to \$17.6 million.

The bill applies to revenues collected for occupancies during State Fiscal Year 2021 and thereafter.

As amended, the bill changes the “poison pill” provision under current law, which mandates a minimal level of funding for certain projects, including the arts, historical heritage, and tourism advertisement and promotion. The amendment requires funding for those projects at Fiscal Year 2005 appropriation levels instead of Fiscal Year 2004 appropriation levels, as required under current law.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill:

to make the bill applicable to revenues collected during Fiscal Year 2021 and thereafter rather than Fiscal Year 2017;

to require the minimum funding for the projects to be the Fiscal Year 2005 amount instead of the Fiscal Year 2004 amount; and to incorporate statutory updates.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill is not certified as requiring a fiscal note.