

# ASSEMBLY, No. 5210

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 25, 2019

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON**

**District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**Assemblyman ANTHONY S. VERRELLI**

**District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman Holley**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes Trenton Capital City Aid Program; appropriates \$10 million.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



A5210 REYNOLDS-JACKSON, VERRELLI

2

1 AN ACT establishing the Trenton Capital City Aid Program,  
2 supplementing P.L.1966, c.293 (C.52:27D-1 et seq.), and making  
3 an appropriation.

4

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

7

8 1. There is established the Trenton Capital City Aid Program,  
9 for which there shall be appropriated in each fiscal year an amount  
10 not less than \$10,000,000 for the City of Trenton. Funds received  
11 by the city shall be used solely and exclusively by the city for the  
12 purpose of reducing the amount to be raised through the property  
13 tax levy for municipal purposes. If in any year the funds dedicated  
14 to the city through the Trenton Capital City Aid Program exceed the  
15 amount to be raised through the property tax levy for municipal  
16 purposes, the remaining balance of the State aid payment shall be  
17 allocated in equal amounts to Mercer County and the Trenton  
18 School District to be used to reduce the amount of the property tax  
19 levies for county and school purposes, notwithstanding the  
20 provisions of this section, or of any other law to the contrary. The  
21 Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the  
22 Department of Community Affairs shall certify annually that the  
23 city has complied with the requirements of this section.

24

25 2. There is appropriated from the Property Tax Relief Fund to  
26 the Department of Community Affairs for State Fiscal Year 2019  
27 the sum of \$10,000,000 for the Trenton Capital City Aid Program.

28

29 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

30

31

32

STATEMENT

33

34 This bill establishes the Trenton Capital City Aid Program to  
35 provide not less than \$10 million in each State fiscal year to the  
36 City of Trenton in recognition of its unique status as the State  
37 capital, and the budgetary stress experienced annually by the city  
38 resulting from the property tax-exempt status of State property in  
39 the city. Trenton Capital City Aid Program funds received by the  
40 city are to be used solely and exclusively by the city for the purpose  
41 of reducing the amount the city is required to raise through the  
42 property tax levy for municipal purposes. However, if the amount  
43 of funds received by the city in Trenton Capital City Aid Program  
44 aid in any year exceeds the amount required to be raised through the  
45 property tax levy for municipal purposes, the remaining balance of  
46 the State aid payment shall be allocated in equal amounts to Mercer  
47 County and the Trenton School District to be used to reduce the  
48 amount of the property tax levies for county and school purposes.

1       The bill also makes an appropriation of \$10 million from the  
2 Property Tax Relief Fund to the Department of Community Affairs  
3 for State Fiscal Year 2019 for the Trenton Capital City Aid  
4 Program.

5       In State Fiscal Years 2004 through 2010, there was a separate  
6 category of State aid, Trenton Capital City Aid, provided to Trenton  
7 by the State in acknowledgment of its unique status as the State's  
8 capital city, and the fact that a significant amount of real property  
9 located in the city is State-owned, and therefore property tax-  
10 exempt. In addition, Trenton's property taxpayers pay for police,  
11 fire, sanitation, public health, and public works services provided to  
12 the State employees who work in the city, but who do not contribute  
13 toward the cost of those services. The State Fiscal Year 2011  
14 Appropriations Act, P.L.2011, c.85, eliminated this State aid  
15 program.