

# ASSEMBLY, No. 5513

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 6, 2019

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman RONALD S. DANCER**

**District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)**

**Assemblyman CLINTON CALABRESE**

**District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman Benson, Assemblywomen McKnight, Reynolds-Jackson and Vainieri Huttle**

**SYNOPSIS**

Provides for voluntary contributions by taxpayers on gross income tax returns for Meals on Wheels.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/13/2019)**

1 AN ACT concerning voluntary contributions through gross income  
2 tax returns to support the Meals on Wheels program in New  
3 Jersey, supplementing chapter 9 of Title 54A of the New Jersey  
4 Statutes.

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

8  
9 1. a. There is established in the Department of the Treasury a  
10 special fund to be known as the "Meals on Wheels in New Jersey  
11 Fund."

12 b. A taxpayer shall have the opportunity to indicate on the  
13 taxpayer's New Jersey gross income tax return that a portion of the  
14 taxpayer's tax refund or an enclosed contribution shall be deposited  
15 in the "Meals on Wheels in New Jersey Fund."

16 c. Any costs incurred by the Division of Taxation for collection  
17 or administration attributable to this section may be deducted from  
18 receipts collected pursuant to this section, as determined by the  
19 Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting in the  
20 Department of the Treasury. The State Treasurer shall deposit net  
21 contributions collected pursuant to this section into the "Meals on  
22 Wheels in New Jersey Fund."

23 d. The Legislature shall annually appropriate all monies  
24 deposited in the "Meals on Wheels in New Jersey Fund" established  
25 pursuant to this section for distribution to the Meals on Wheels  
26 America organization for allocation to each of the independently-  
27 run local programs operating in the State of New Jersey to support  
28 its programs enabling senior citizens to live healthier lives in their  
29 own home.

30  
31 2. This act shall take effect immediately and apply to taxable  
32 years beginning on or after the January 1 next following enactment.

33  
34  
35 STATEMENT

36  
37 This bill establishes the "Meals on Wheels in New Jersey Fund"  
38 and provides for a designation on the State gross income tax return  
39 that will permit taxpayers to make voluntary contributions to the  
40 fund.

41 Meals on Wheels America is a 26 U.S.C. s.503(c)(3) tax exempt  
42 organization that provides services in the State of New Jersey  
43 through a network of independently-run local programs throughout  
44 the State. The "Meals on Wheels in New Jersey Fund" is to support  
45 the Meals on Wheels local programs in their mission to provide  
46 nutritious meals to senior citizens and, thereby, help senior citizens  
47 to live healthier lives in the privacy of their own homes.

1       The meals provided by the Meals on Wheels local programs  
2 ensure that the senior citizens receive proper nutrition, which has  
3 been linked to a strengthened immune system, faster healing time,  
4 and increased mental acuity. Furthermore, nutrition is not the only  
5 benefit provided by the Meals on Wheels local programs. In  
6 instances when a meal is delivered to the senior citizen's home, the  
7 Meals on Wheels volunteer performs a safety check and, in the case  
8 of an emergency, can call the authorities. In instances when the  
9 meals are provided in a communal setting, such as a community  
10 center, senior citizens receive valuable social interaction along with  
11 a nutritious meal.