

ASSEMBLY, No. 110

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman CHRISTOPHER P. DEPHILLIPS

District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Exempts volunteer fire companies from paying annual charitable registration fee.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning charitable registration fees for volunteer fire
2 companies and amending P.L.1994, c.16.

3

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

6

7 1. Section 6 of P.L.1994, c.16 (C.45:17A-23) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 6. a. A charitable organization, unless exempted from
10 registration requirements pursuant to section 9 of **[this act]**
11 P.L.1994, c.16 (C.45:17A-26), shall file a registration statement
12 with the Attorney General on forms prescribed by the Attorney
13 General.

14 b. It shall be unlawful for any charitable organization to solicit
15 contributions or have contributions solicited in its behalf before the
16 Attorney General has been given the opportunity to review the
17 registration statement pursuant to section 5 of **[this act]** P.L.1994,
18 c.16 (C.45:17A-22). A renewal statement must be filed annually
19 within six months after the close of the charitable organization's
20 fiscal year. For good cause shown, the Attorney General may
21 extend the time for the annual filing of the renewal statement and
22 financial report for a period not to exceed 180 days, during which
23 time the previous registration shall remain in effect. The request for
24 an extension shall be in writing and received by the Attorney
25 General before the filing deadline.

26 c. All registration statements shall be signed by two authorized
27 officers, including the chief fiscal officer of the organization, who
28 shall certify that information contained in the registration
29 statements is correct.

30 d. (1) The Attorney General shall prescribe all fees for the
31 filing of all registration statements according to the provisions of
32 **[this act]** P.L.1994, c.16 (C.45:17A-18 et seq.). The fees for the
33 filing of registration statements by charitable organizations may be
34 graduated based upon the amount of contributions received during
35 the previous fiscal year. A parent organization filing on behalf of
36 one or more local units shall pay a single annual registration fee for
37 itself and a fee for each local unit included in the registration
38 statement.

39 (2) Notwithstanding any other requirements of P.L.1994, c.16
40 (C.45:17A-18 et seq.), the Attorney General shall exempt volunteer
41 fire companies that register under P.L.1994, c.16 (C.45:17A-18 et
42 seq.) from payment of an annual registration fee.

43 (cf: P.L.1994, c.16, s.6)

44

45 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 STATEMENT

2

3 This bill exempts volunteer fire companies from paying the
4 annual registration fee that is required by the State “Charitable
5 Registration and Investigation Act.” The State Attorney General
6 has authority to set annual registration fees for charitable and other
7 non-profit organizations. These fees are currently based on the
8 amount of revenue received by an organization, starting with a \$30
9 annual fee for an organization receiving up to \$10,000 per year, to a
10 \$250 fee for an organization receiving over \$500,000 per year.

11 While there are certain exemptions that apply to the fee and
12 registration requirements under current law, volunteer fire
13 companies are not categorically exempted from registration and
14 fees. If enacted, this bill would exempt volunteer fire companies
15 from paying an annual registration fee, but it would not relieve
16 volunteer fire companies of their obligation to register as non-profit
17 organizations.