

ASSEMBLY, No. 1273

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman LOUIS D. GREENWALD

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman JAY WEBBER

District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Coughlin, McKeon and DiMaio

SYNOPSIS

Requires DEP to submit annual financial report on status of certain fund balances.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning submission of an annual financial report by the
2 Department of Environmental Protection, and supplementing
3 Title 13 of the Revised Statutes.

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

7
8 1. a. On or before March 1 of each year, the Department of
9 Environmental Protection shall compile and submit to the Governor
10 and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the
11 Legislature a written report setting forth information concerning the
12 status of appropriated and unappropriated balances of various
13 accounts under the department's jurisdiction. Such accounts shall
14 be designated according to their funding sources, which shall
15 include but need not be limited to those receiving federal funds,
16 one-time appropriations, special fees or tax revenues dedicated to
17 specific program or functional purposes, proceeds from general
18 revenue or obligation bonds, contributions or allocations from non-
19 State entities such as public authorities or nonprofit institutions, and
20 any other funding that would be assigned to accounts not normally
21 associated with the department's operating budget.

22 b. As used in this section:

23 "Appropriated balances" means funds derived from loan
24 repayments, interest or investment earnings, unspent administrative
25 expenses, transfers from other bond acts or State funding sources,
26 and federal contributions that may be available for reappropriation.

27 "Unappropriated balances" means funds that may be available
28 for appropriation or reappropriation which may be derived from
29 unissued bonds, unallocated funds, or unspent project monies.

30
31 2. The annual report, required pursuant to section 1 of this act,
32 shall contain, but need not be limited to, the following information:

33 a. the statutory or regulatory authority for each account and the
34 program area it supports;

35 b. the total amount of funds credited to and expended from
36 each account during the preceding fiscal year; and

37 c. the account balances as of December 31 preceding the
38 submission of the annual report as provided in section 1 of this act.

39
40 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1 of this act to the
41 contrary, the department shall compile and submit an initial interim
42 report, based upon the most recent data available, within 30 days
43 after the date of enactment of this act.

44
45 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill requires the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to compile and submit to the Governor and the Legislature, on or before March 1 of each year, an annual report detailing the appropriated and unappropriated balances of special funding accounts under the department’s jurisdiction. Such accounts, often referred to as “off-budget,” “below the line” or “special revenue” accounts, would include those supported by bond acts, dedicated revenues, taxes or fees, special purpose or one-time appropriations, federal or non-State contributions, and other similar funding sources not generally available for scrutiny by the Legislature or the public.

The bill also requires the DEP to submit an initial interim report, based upon the most recent data available, within 30 days after the date of enactment of the bill into law.