

ASSEMBLY, No. 1471

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

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District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

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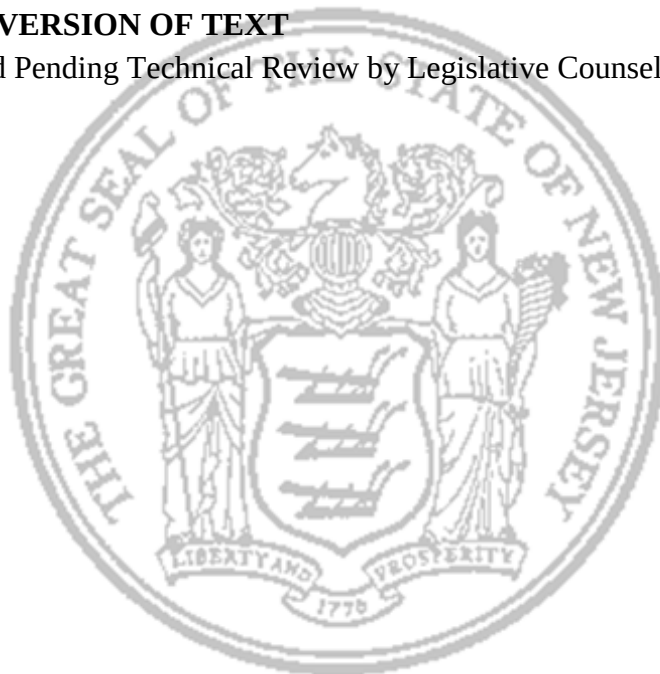
Assemblyman Houghtaling, Assemblywoman Downey and Assemblyman Chiaravalloti

SYNOPSIS

Requires State Treasurer to organize and publish certain contract and grant data and information on State expenditure Internet website.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning the development of a State expenditure Internet
2 website, supplementing P.L.1948, c.92 (C.52:18A-1 et seq.).

3

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

6

7 1. As used in this act:

8 “Chief Technology Officer” means the person appointed by and
9 serving at the pleasure of the Governor, pursuant to section 9 of
10 P.L.2007, c.56 (C.52:18A-227), who is responsible for the day-to-
11 day operations of the Office of Information Technology, in but not
12 of the Department of the Treasury;

13 “Internet” means the international computer network of both
14 federal and non-federal interoperable packet switched data
15 networks;

16 “State agency” means any of the principal departments in the
17 Executive Branch of State Government and any division, board,
18 bureau, office, commission, or other instrumentality within or
19 created by such principal department, and any independent State
20 authority, commission, instrumentality, or agency; and

21 “State Treasurer” means the Treasurer of the State of New
22 Jersey.

23

24 2. a. The State Treasurer, in consultation with the Chief
25 Technology Officer, shall, on or before July 1, 2018, design and
26 develop, maintain and operate a single, searchable Internet website
27 with the capacity to retain and display data and information
28 concerning State expenditures, including but not limited to
29 purchases, contracts, or agreements and grants, awards, or loans, the
30 cost or contract price of which is to be paid with or out of State
31 funds by or on behalf of a State agency, pursuant to various
32 provisions of State law.

33 b. The State expenditure website developed in accordance with
34 subsection a. of this section shall, at a minimum, be: (1) accessible
35 through a link prominently displayed on the home page of the
36 official website for the State of New Jersey; (2) available to the
37 general public without charge for access; and (3) organized
38 chronologically by State fiscal year, with additional consideration
39 for type of expenditure and State agency involved with the
40 expenditure of State funds. The website shall provide opportunity
41 for public comment regarding its utility and recommendations for
42 its improvement.

43 c. Data and information made available on the State
44 expenditure website may be updated or revised periodically, but
45 shall not be subject to removal.

46 d. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the State
47 expenditure website shall not retain or display data or information

1 deemed private or confidential by State or federal law, rules, or
2 regulations.

3
4 3. a. The State Treasurer shall, for State fiscal years beginning
5 on or after July 1, 2018, publish, on the State expenditure website
6 developed in accordance with subsection a. of section 2 of P.L. ,
7 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), notice of
8 all purchases, contracts, or agreements and notice of all grants,
9 awards, or loans, the cost or contract price of which is to be paid
10 with or out of State funds by or on behalf of a State agency,
11 pursuant to various provisions of State law.

12 b. The notice of a purchase, contract, or agreement published in
13 accordance with subsection a. of this section shall, at a minimum,
14 include: (1) the name and address of the entity contracting with the
15 State; (2) the names of the principal officers and directors of the
16 entity and, if the contracting entity is a subsidiary of another entity,
17 the name and address of the parent entity and the names of its
18 principal officers and directors; (3) a description of the goods and
19 services provided; (4) the cost or price; (5) the beginning and
20 termination dates; and (6) the State fund from which the contract is
21 to be paid.

22 c. The notice of a grant, award, or loan published in
23 accordance with subsection a. of this section shall, at a minimum,
24 include: (1) the name and address of the entity receiving a grant
25 from the State; (2) the names of the principal officers and directors
26 of the entity and, if the entity receiving the grant is a subsidiary of
27 another entity, the name and address of the parent entity and the
28 names of its principal officers and directors; (3) a statement
29 indicating the purpose or intent of the grant; (4) the cost or price;
30 (5) the date of the award; and (6) the State fund from which the
31 grant is to be paid.

32
33 4. The State Treasurer shall develop rules and regulations,
34 pursuant to the provisions of the “Administrative Procedure Act,”
35 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as are necessary to effectuate
36 the purposes of this act.

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38 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

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41 STATEMENT

42
43 This bill requires the State Treasurer to organize and publish
44 certain State contract and grant data and information on a single,
45 searchable Internet website.

46 The bill requires the State Treasurer, in consultation with the
47 Chief Technology Officer in the Office of Information Technology,
48 to design and develop, operate, and maintain an Internet website

1 with the capacity to retain and display data and information
2 concerning State expenditures. The bill specifies that these State
3 expenditures include but are not limited to purchases, contracts, or
4 agreements and grants, awards, or loans paid with or out of State
5 funds by or on behalf of a State agency.

6 The bill directs that, on or before July 1, 2018, the State
7 expenditure website will, at a minimum, be: (1) accessible through
8 a link prominently displayed on the home page of the official
9 website for the State of New Jersey; (2) available to the general
10 public without charge for access; and (3) organized chronologically
11 by State fiscal year, with additional consideration for type of
12 expenditure and State agency involved with the expenditure of State
13 funds. The website must also provide an opportunity for public
14 input regarding its utility and recommendations for its
15 improvement.

16 The bill allows the State expenditure website to be updated or
17 revised periodically, but stipulates that data and information made
18 available must not be subject to removal. The bill also prohibits the
19 State Treasurer from displaying data or information deemed private
20 or confidential by State or federal law, rules, or regulations.

21 For State fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2018, the bill
22 requires the State Treasurer to utilize the website to publish notice
23 of certain contracts and grants. In particular, the State Treasurer is
24 required to publish notice of all purchases, contracts, or agreements
25 and all grants, awards, or loans, the cost or contract price of which
26 is to be paid with or out of State funds by or on behalf of a State
27 agency.

28 In providing notice of a purchase, contract, or agreement, the bill
29 requires that the State Treasurer disclose: (1) the name and address
30 of the entity contracting with the State; (2) the names of the
31 principal officers and directors of the entity and, if the contracting
32 entity is a subsidiary of another entity, the name and address of the
33 parent entity and the names of its principal officers and directors;
34 (3) a description of the goods and services provided; (4) the cost or
35 price; (5) the beginning and termination dates; and (6) the State
36 fund from which the contract is paid with or out of. The bill
37 requires similar information be published for notice of all grants,
38 awards, or loans.

39 The development of a State expenditure Internet website is
40 intended to provide State residents with an easily accessible and
41 comprehensive “one stop” source for information on the
42 expenditure of State funds. Similar to initiatives in more than a
43 dozen states, the development of a single, searchable website for
44 contract and grant data and information will improve transparency
45 and accountability and simplify the process to access information
46 concerning the allocation and spending of public tax dollars.