

ASSEMBLY, No. 1501

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman KEVIN J. ROONEY

District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Requires State to award certain property tax credits as rebates.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning property tax rebates and amending various
2 sections of statutory law.

3

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

6

7 1. Section 7 of P.L.1990, c.63 (C.54:4-8.63) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 7. a. The State Treasurer annually on or before October 31,
10 upon certification of the director and upon warrant of the Director
11 of the Division of Budget and Accounting, shall pay and distribute
12 the amount of a homestead rebate payable under this act that is
13 claimed for the prior tax year to each claimant whose rebate is
14 approved by the director.

15 b. A homestead credit allowed by the Director of the Division
16 of Taxation to a claimant who claimed a homestead credit pursuant
17 to section 3 of P.L.1990, c.61 (C.54:4-8.59), and whose homestead
18 is not a unit in a cooperative, mutual housing corporation or
19 continuing care retirement community, shall be paid by the State
20 Treasurer, through electronic funds transfer made by the director to
21 the [local property tax account maintained by the local tax collector
22 for the homestead of the claimant] claimant's account held by a
23 financial institution as the claimant shall identify, or by the issuance
24 of a prepaid debit card directly to the taxpayer, if requested by the
25 taxpayer, in equal installments after the application for the credit
26 has been approved, at the dates and in the manner as the director
27 shall determine to best coincide with the next local property tax
28 quarterly due dates of August 1 and November 1. Notice of
29 payments of credit installments shall be provided to the claimant
30 and the appropriate local tax collector. Notice of credits awarded to
31 a taxpayer shall be reflected on each property tax bill, which shall
32 indicate the specific amount of each credit and the scheduled date of
33 payment to the taxpayer.

34 c. Notwithstanding subsection b. of this section, the director
35 shall provide a homestead benefit under this act as a credit only if
36 the director can ensure that the benefit will be [applied] distributed
37 to the appropriate taxpayer. [Otherwise, the director may remit a
38 homestead benefit to an eligible taxpayer as a rebate.

39 d. Notwithstanding subsection b. of this section, a resident
40 homeowner of this State who is 65 years of age or older at the close
41 of the tax year or who is allowed to claim a personal deduction as a
42 blind or disabled taxpayer pursuant to subsection (b) of
43 N.J.S.54A:3-1, shall receive the credit in the form of a rebate
44 payment in calendar year 2007, but will receive credits in future

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 years starting in calendar year 2008, unless the claimant elects in
2 the claimant's homestead credit application to receive a rebate.

3 e. Notwithstanding subsection b. of this section, if the director
4 determines that homestead benefits for a particular tax year cannot
5 be administered and delivered as credits efficiently, the director
6 may remit homestead benefits for that year as rebates.】
7 (cf: P.L.2007, c.62, s.25)
8

9 2. Section 4 of P.L.1997, c.348 (C.54:4-8.71) is amended to
10 read as follows:

11 4. The director shall administer the homestead property tax
12 reimbursement program and establish a system for distributing the
13 homestead property tax reimbursement as an electric funds transfer
14 for direct deposit into a recipient's account held by a financial
15 institution. A payment for the homestead property tax
16 reimbursement amount, as calculated by the director, shall be
17 **【mailed】** delivered via an electric fund transfer for direct deposit to
18 each person determined by the director to be an eligible claimant
19 under this act on or before July 15, 1999 and July 15 annually
20 thereafter, except that the payment of any homestead property tax
21 reimbursement amount for an eligible claimant whose application is
22 filed during the period May 1 through June 1 shall be **【mailed】**
23 delivered via an electric fund transfer for direct deposit on or before
24 September 1 annually. The payment shall be mailed if the eligible
25 claimant has not registered valid bank account information with the
26 director. Provided further, however, that the payment of any
27 homestead property tax reimbursement amount for an eligible
28 claimant whose application is filed during a period after June 1
29 pursuant to an extended application deadline as may be designated
30 by the director shall be delivered or mailed , as appropriate, on or
31 before such latter mailing date as the director may determine. All
32 payments made pursuant to this section shall be appropriated from
33 receipts in the Casino Revenue Fund.

34 (cf: P.L.2003, c.30, s.2)
35

36 3. This act shall take effect immediately.
37
38

39 STATEMENT

40
41 This bill requires that homestead property tax credits and
42 reimbursements awarded pursuant to P.L.1997, c.348 and P.L.1990,
43 c.63 be distributed as rebates directly into a taxpayer's bank
44 account, or distributed via prepaid debit cards directly to taxpayers.
45 The amount of a credit awarded would be reflected on the tax bill,
46 along with an anticipated date of payment. Taxpayers who sell
47 property before a credit has been awarded by the State often lose
48 out on the benefit of the credit once they no longer live in the home.

A1501 ROONEY

4

- 1 This bill would provide that the applicant for the credit or
- 2 reimbursement is paid a rebate directly via direct deposit into an
- 3 account held by a financial institution.