

13:1E-217
LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2025 **CHAPTER:** 106

NJSA: 13:1E-217 Makes annual allocation of \$500,000 from Clean Communities Program Fund for public outreach concerning single-use plastics reduction program permanent.

BILL NO: S3711 (Substituted for A5153 (1R))

SPONSOR(S) McKeon, John F. and others

DATE INTRODUCED: 10/7/2024

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** --

SENATE: Environment & Energy
Budget & Appropriations

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: 06/30/2025

SENATE: 06/30/2025

DATE OF APPROVAL: 7/22/2025

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (S3711 Sca (1R) enacted)

ADVANCE LAW Yes

PAMPHLET LAW Yes

S3711

INTRODUCED BILL: (Includes sponsor(s) statement) Yes

REPRINT(S): Yes SEN 2/10/25 1R

TECHNICAL REVIEW OF BILL: No

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** No

SENATE:	Yes	Environment & Energy Budget & Appropriations
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(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, ***may possibly*** be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

A5153 (1R)

INTRODUCED BILL: (Includes sponsor(s) statement)	Yes	
REPRINT(S):	Yes	ABU 6/26/25 1R
TECHNICAL REVIEW OF BILL:	No	
COMMITTEE STATEMENT:	ASSEMBLY:	Yes Environment, Natural Resources, & Solid Waste Appropriations Budget
	SENATE:	No

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, ***may possibly*** be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:	No
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:	No
VETO MESSAGE:	No
GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:	Yes
LEGISLATOR STATEMENT:	Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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REPORTS:	No
HEARINGS:	No
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:	No

CL/MMcB

P.L. 2025, CHAPTER 106, *approved July 22, 2025*
Senate, No. 3711 (*First Reprint*)

1 **AN ACT** concerning funding for public outreach concerning single-
2 use plastics reduction program and amending P.L.2002, c.128.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. Section 5 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-217) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 5. The Clean Communities Program Fund is established as a
10 nonlapsing, revolving fund in the Department of the Treasury. The
11 Clean Communities Program Fund shall be administered by the
12 Department of Environmental Protection and credited, in addition to
13 any appropriations made thereto, with all user fees imposed
14 pursuant to section 4 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-216) or penalties
15 imposed pursuant to section 10 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-222),
16 and any sums received as voluntary contributions from private
17 sources. Interest received on moneys in the Clean Communities
18 Program Fund shall be credited to the fund. Unless otherwise
19 expressly provided by the specific appropriation thereof by the
20 Legislature, which shall take the form of a discrete legislative
21 appropriations act and shall not be included within the annual
22 appropriations act, all available moneys in the Clean Communities
23 Program Fund shall be appropriated annually solely for the
24 following purposes and no others:

25 a. 10 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
26 Communities Program Fund shall be used for a State program of
27 litter pickup and removal and of enforcement of litter-related laws
28 and ordinances in State owned places and areas that are accessible
29 to the public. Moneys in the fund may also be used by the State to
30 abate graffiti;

31 b. 50 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
32 Communities Program Fund shall be distributed as State aid to
33 eligible municipalities with total housing units of 200 or more for
34 programs of litter pickup and removal, including establishing an
35 "Adopt-A-Highway" program, of public education and information
36 relating to litter abatement and of enforcement of litter-related laws
37 and ordinances. The amount of State aid due each municipality
38 shall be solely calculated based on the proportion which the housing
39 units of a qualifying municipality bear to the total housing units in
40 the State. Total housing units shall be determined using the most
41 recent federal decennial population estimates for New Jersey and its

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SEN committee amendments adopted February 10, 2025.

1 municipalities, filed in the office of the Secretary of State. Moneys
2 in the fund may also be used by an eligible municipality to abate
3 graffiti;

4 c. 30 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
5 Communities Program Fund shall be distributed as State aid to
6 eligible municipalities with total housing units of 200 or more for
7 programs of litter pickup and removal, including establishing an
8 "Adopt-A-Highway" program, of public education and information
9 relating to litter abatement and of enforcement of litter-related laws
10 and ordinances. The amount of State aid due each municipality
11 shall be solely calculated based on the proportion which the
12 municipal road mileage of a qualifying municipality bears to the
13 total municipal road mileage within the State. For the purposes of
14 this subsection, "municipal road mileage" means that road mileage
15 under the jurisdiction of municipalities, as determined by the
16 Department of Transportation. Moneys in the fund may also be
17 used by an eligible municipality to abate graffiti;

18 d. 10 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
19 Communities Program Fund shall be distributed as State aid to
20 eligible counties for programs of litter pickup and removal,
21 including establishing an "Adopt-A-Highway" program, of public
22 education and information relating to litter abatement and of
23 enforcement of litter-related laws and ordinances. The amount of
24 State aid due each county shall be solely calculated based on the
25 proportion which the county road mileage of an eligible county
26 bears to the total county road mileage within the State. For the
27 purposes of this subsection, "county road mileage" means that road
28 mileage under the jurisdiction of counties, as determined by the
29 Department of Transportation. Moneys in the fund may also be
30 used by an eligible county to abate graffiti;

31 e. No eligible municipality shall receive less than \$4,000 in
32 State aid as apportioned pursuant to subsections b. and c. of this
33 section. A municipality or county may use up to five percent of its
34 State aid for administrative expenses;

35 f. Prior to the distribution of funds pursuant to subsections a.
36 through d. of this section:

37 (1) \$375,000 of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
38 Communities Program Fund shall be annually appropriated to the
39 department and made available on July 1 of every year to the
40 organization under contract with the department pursuant to section
41 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) for a Statewide public
42 information and education program concerning antilittering
43 activities and other aspects of responsible solid waste handling
44 behavior, of which up to \$75,000 shall be used exclusively to
45 finance an annual Statewide television, radio, newspaper and other
46 media advertising campaign to promote antilittering and responsible
47 solid waste handling behavior.

1 (2) **【**in each of the first three years after the effective date of
2 P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.),**】** \$500,000 of the estimated
3 annual balance of the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be
4 annually appropriated to the department and made available on July
5 1 of each year to the organization under contract with the
6 department pursuant to section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218)
7 for the Statewide public information and education program
8 developed pursuant to subsection b. of section of section 8 of
9 P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.133), including the **‘[distribution]**
10 **redistribution**¹ of reusable bags.

11 The organization under contract with the department pursuant to
12 section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) shall, no later than the
13 date on which the contract period concludes, submit a report to the
14 Governor and the Legislature concerning its activities during the
15 contract period and any recommendations concerning improving the
16 program. Every eligible municipality and county shall cooperate
17 with the organization under contract with the department pursuant
18 to section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) in providing
19 information concerning its program of litter pickup and removal.

20 No later than May 31, 2008, 25 percent of the estimated annual
21 balance of the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be
22 appropriated to the State Recycling Fund established pursuant to
23 section 5 of P.L.1981, c.278 (C.13:1E-96). These moneys shall be
24 used by the Department of Environmental Protection for direct
25 recycling grants to counties and municipalities, up to a maximum
26 appropriation of \$4,000,000.

27 g. As used in this section, "graffiti" means any inscription
28 drawn, painted or otherwise made on a bridge, building, public
29 transportation vehicle, rock, wall, sidewalk, street or other exposed
30 surface on public property.

31 The department may carry forward any unexpended balances in
32 the Clean Communities Program Fund as of June 30 of each year.
33 (cf: P.L.2020, c.117, s.10)

34

35 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

36

37

38

39

40 Makes annual allocation of \$500,000 from Clean Communities
41 Program Fund for public outreach concerning single-use plastics
42 reduction program permanent.

CHAPTER 106

AN ACT concerning funding for public outreach concerning single-use plastics reduction program and amending P.L.2002, c.128.

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

1. Section 5 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-217) is amended to read as follows:

C.13:1E-217 Clean Communities Program Fund.

5. The Clean Communities Program Fund is established as a nonlapsing, revolving fund in the Department of the Treasury. The Clean Communities Program Fund shall be administered by the Department of Environmental Protection and credited, in addition to any appropriations made thereto, with all user fees imposed pursuant to section 4 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-216) or penalties imposed pursuant to section 10 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-222), and any sums received as voluntary contributions from private sources. Interest received on moneys in the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be credited to the fund. Unless otherwise expressly provided by the specific appropriation thereof by the Legislature, which shall take the form of a discrete legislative appropriations act and shall not be included within the annual appropriations act, all available moneys in the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be appropriated annually solely for the following purposes and no others:

a. 10 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be used for a State program of litter pickup and removal and of enforcement of litter-related laws and ordinances in State owned places and areas that are accessible to the public. Moneys in the fund may also be used by the State to abate graffiti;

b. 50 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be distributed as State aid to eligible municipalities with total housing units of 200 or more for programs of litter pickup and removal, including establishing an "Adopt-A-Highway" program, of public education and information relating to litter abatement, and of enforcement of litter-related laws and ordinances. The amount of State aid due each municipality shall be solely calculated based on the proportion which the housing units of a qualifying municipality bear to the total housing units in the State. Total housing units shall be determined using the most recent federal decennial population estimates for New Jersey and its municipalities, filed in the office of the Secretary of State. Moneys in the fund may also be used by an eligible municipality to abate graffiti;

c. 30 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be distributed as State aid to eligible municipalities with total housing units of 200 or more for programs of litter pickup and removal, including establishing an "Adopt-A-Highway" program, of public education and information relating to litter abatement, and of enforcement of litter-related laws and ordinances. The amount of State aid due each municipality shall be solely calculated based on the proportion which the municipal road mileage of a qualifying municipality bears to the total municipal road mileage within the State. For the purposes of this subsection, "municipal road mileage" means that road mileage under the jurisdiction of municipalities, as determined by the Department of Transportation. Moneys in the fund may also be used by an eligible municipality to abate graffiti;

d. 10 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be distributed as State aid to eligible counties for programs of litter pickup and removal, including establishing an "Adopt-A-Highway" program, of public education and information relating to litter abatement, and of enforcement of litter-related laws and ordinances. The amount of State aid due each county shall be solely calculated based on the proportion which

the county road mileage of an eligible county bears to the total county road mileage within the State. For the purposes of this subsection, "county road mileage" means that road mileage under the jurisdiction of counties, as determined by the Department of Transportation. Moneys in the fund may also be used by an eligible county to abate graffiti;

e. No eligible municipality shall receive less than \$4,000 in State aid as apportioned pursuant to subsections b. and c. of this section. A municipality or county may use up to five percent of its State aid for administrative expenses;

f. Prior to the distribution of funds pursuant to subsections a. through d. of this section:

(1) \$375,000 of the estimated annual balance of the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be annually appropriated to the department and made available on July 1 of every year to the organization under contract with the department pursuant to section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) for a Statewide public information and education program concerning antilittering activities and other aspects of responsible solid waste handling behavior, of which up to \$75,000 shall be used exclusively to finance an annual Statewide television, radio, newspaper and other media advertising campaign to promote antilittering and responsible solid waste handling behavior.

(2) \$500,000 of the estimated annual balance of the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be annually appropriated to the department and made available on July 1 of each year to the organization under contract with the department pursuant to section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) for the Statewide public information and education program developed pursuant to subsection b. of section 8 of P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.133), including the redistribution of reusable bags.

The organization under contract with the department pursuant to section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) shall, no later than the date on which the contract period concludes, submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature concerning its activities during the contract period and any recommendations concerning improving the program. Every eligible municipality and county shall cooperate with the organization under contract with the department pursuant to section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) in providing information concerning its program of litter pickup and removal.

No later than May 31, 2008, 25 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be appropriated to the State Recycling Fund established pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1981, c.278 (C.13:1E-96). These moneys shall be used by the Department of Environmental Protection for direct recycling grants to counties and municipalities, up to a maximum appropriation of \$4,000,000.

g. As used in this section, "graffiti" means any inscription drawn, painted or otherwise made on a bridge, building, public transportation vehicle, rock, wall, sidewalk, street, or other exposed surface on public property.

The department may carry forward any unexpended balances in the Clean Communities Program Fund as of June 30 of each year.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved July 22, 2025.

SENATE, No. 3711

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 7, 2024

Sponsored by:

Senator JOHN F. MCKEON

District 27 (Essex and Passaic)

Senator ANDREW ZWICKER

District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Turner and Greenstein

SYNOPSIS

Makes annual allocation of \$500,000 from Clean Communities Program Fund for public outreach concerning single-use plastics reduction program permanent.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/10/2025)

1 **AN ACT** concerning funding for public outreach concerning single-
2 use plastics reduction program and amending P.L.2002, c.128.

3

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

6

7 1. Section 5 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-217) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 5. The Clean Communities Program Fund is established as a
10 nonlapsing, revolving fund in the Department of the Treasury. The
11 Clean Communities Program Fund shall be administered by the
12 Department of Environmental Protection and credited, in addition to
13 any appropriations made thereto, with all user fees imposed
14 pursuant to section 4 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-216) or penalties
15 imposed pursuant to section 10 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-222),
16 and any sums received as voluntary contributions from private
17 sources. Interest received on moneys in the Clean Communities
18 Program Fund shall be credited to the fund. Unless otherwise
19 expressly provided by the specific appropriation thereof by the
20 Legislature, which shall take the form of a discrete legislative
21 appropriations act and shall not be included within the annual
22 appropriations act, all available moneys in the Clean Communities
23 Program Fund shall be appropriated annually solely for the
24 following purposes and no others:

25 a. 10 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
26 Communities Program Fund shall be used for a State program of
27 litter pickup and removal and of enforcement of litter-related laws
28 and ordinances in State owned places and areas that are accessible
29 to the public. Moneys in the fund may also be used by the State to
30 abate graffiti;

31 b. 50 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
32 Communities Program Fund shall be distributed as State aid to
33 eligible municipalities with total housing units of 200 or more for
34 programs of litter pickup and removal, including establishing an
35 "Adopt-A-Highway" program, of public education and information
36 relating to litter abatement and of enforcement of litter-related laws
37 and ordinances. The amount of State aid due each municipality
38 shall be solely calculated based on the proportion which the housing
39 units of a qualifying municipality bear to the total housing units in
40 the State. Total housing units shall be determined using the most
41 recent federal decennial population estimates for New Jersey and its
42 municipalities, filed in the office of the Secretary of State. Moneys
43 in the fund may also be used by an eligible municipality to abate
44 graffiti;

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 c. 30 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
2 Communities Program Fund shall be distributed as State aid to
3 eligible municipalities with total housing units of 200 or more for
4 programs of litter pickup and removal, including establishing an
5 "Adopt-A-Highway" program, of public education and information
6 relating to litter abatement and of enforcement of litter-related laws
7 and ordinances. The amount of State aid due each municipality
8 shall be solely calculated based on the proportion which the
9 municipal road mileage of a qualifying municipality bears to the
10 total municipal road mileage within the State. For the purposes of
11 this subsection, "municipal road mileage" means that road mileage
12 under the jurisdiction of municipalities, as determined by the
13 Department of Transportation. Moneys in the fund may also be
14 used by an eligible municipality to abate graffiti;

15 d. 10 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
16 Communities Program Fund shall be distributed as State aid to
17 eligible counties for programs of litter pickup and removal,
18 including establishing an "Adopt-A-Highway" program, of public
19 education and information relating to litter abatement and of
20 enforcement of litter-related laws and ordinances. The amount of
21 State aid due each county shall be solely calculated based on the
22 proportion which the county road mileage of an eligible county
23 bears to the total county road mileage within the State. For the
24 purposes of this subsection, "county road mileage" means that road
25 mileage under the jurisdiction of counties, as determined by the
26 Department of Transportation. Moneys in the fund may also be
27 used by an eligible county to abate graffiti;

28 e. No eligible municipality shall receive less than \$4,000 in
29 State aid as apportioned pursuant to subsections b. and c. of this
30 section. A municipality or county may use up to five percent of its
31 State aid for administrative expenses;

32 f. Prior to the distribution of funds pursuant to subsections a.
33 through d. of this section:

34 (1) \$375,000 of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
35 Communities Program Fund shall be annually appropriated to the
36 department and made available on July 1 of every year to the
37 organization under contract with the department pursuant to section
38 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) for a Statewide public
39 information and education program concerning antilittering
40 activities and other aspects of responsible solid waste handling
41 behavior, of which up to \$75,000 shall be used exclusively to
42 finance an annual Statewide television, radio, newspaper and other
43 media advertising campaign to promote antilittering and responsible
44 solid waste handling behavior.

45 (2) **【**in each of the first three years after the effective date of
46 P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.),**】** \$500,000 of the estimated
47 annual balance of the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be
48 annually appropriated to the department and made available on July

1 1 of each year to the organization under contract with the
2 department pursuant to section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218)
3 for the Statewide public information and education program
4 developed pursuant to subsection b. of section of section 8 of
5 P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.133), including the distribution of
6 reusable bags.

7 The organization under contract with the department pursuant to
8 section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) shall, no later than the
9 date on which the contract period concludes, submit a report to the
10 Governor and the Legislature concerning its activities during the
11 contract period and any recommendations concerning improving the
12 program. Every eligible municipality and county shall cooperate
13 with the organization under contract with the department pursuant
14 to section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) in providing
15 information concerning its program of litter pickup and removal.

16 No later than May 31, 2008, 25 percent of the estimated annual
17 balance of the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be
18 appropriated to the State Recycling Fund established pursuant to
19 section 5 of P.L.1981, c.278 (C.13:1E-96). These moneys shall be
20 used by the Department of Environmental Protection for direct
21 recycling grants to counties and municipalities, up to a maximum
22 appropriation of \$4,000,000.

23 g. As used in this section, "graffiti" means any inscription
24 drawn, painted or otherwise made on a bridge, building, public
25 transportation vehicle, rock, wall, sidewalk, street or other exposed
26 surface on public property.

27 The department may carry forward any unexpended balances in
28 the Clean Communities Program Fund as of June 30 of each year.

29 (cf: P.L.2020, c.117, s.10)

30
31 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

32 33 34 STATEMENT

35
36 This bill would make the annual allocation of \$500,000 from the
37 "Clean Communities Program Fund" to the Department of
38 Environmental Protection to fund public outreach efforts related to
39 the State's single-use plastics program reduction permanent. Under
40 current law, this annual allocation only applies for first three years
41 after the effective date of P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.).

42 The Clean Communities Program Fund (fund) receives moneys
43 from user fees paid by the manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors,
44 and retailers of litter-generating products, as well as penalties, and
45 other voluntary donations. P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.),
46 the law banning single-use plastics, included the allocation of
47 \$500,000 from the fund to pay for the Clean Communities Program
48 for education and implementation of the law. The Clean

1 Communities Program has used these funds, in part, for the
2 establishment of a bag redistribution program that collects reusable
3 bags and repurposes them for use by food banks, food pantries, and
4 other food distribution programs.

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 3711

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 7, 2024

Sponsored by:

Senator JOHN F. MCKEON

District 27 (Essex and Passaic)

Senator ANDREW ZWICKER

District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)

Assemblywoman SHAMA A. HAIDER

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman WILLIAM W. SPEARMAN

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Turner, Greenstein, Diegnan, McKnight, Assemblywomen

Ramirez, Hall, Assemblymen Miller, Hutchison, Assemblywoman Donlon,

Assemblyman Karabinchak, Assemblywomen Speight, Drulis,

Assemblyman Freiman and Assemblywoman Peterpaul

SYNOPSIS

Makes annual allocation of \$500,000 from Clean Communities Program Fund for public outreach concerning single-use plastics reduction program permanent.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Environment and Energy Committee on February 10, 2025, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2025)

1 **AN ACT** concerning funding for public outreach concerning single-
2 use plastics reduction program and amending P.L.2002, c.128.

3

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

6

7 1. Section 5 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-217) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 5. The Clean Communities Program Fund is established as a
10 nonlapsing, revolving fund in the Department of the Treasury. The
11 Clean Communities Program Fund shall be administered by the
12 Department of Environmental Protection and credited, in addition to
13 any appropriations made thereto, with all user fees imposed
14 pursuant to section 4 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-216) or penalties
15 imposed pursuant to section 10 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-222),
16 and any sums received as voluntary contributions from private
17 sources. Interest received on moneys in the Clean Communities
18 Program Fund shall be credited to the fund. Unless otherwise
19 expressly provided by the specific appropriation thereof by the
20 Legislature, which shall take the form of a discrete legislative
21 appropriations act and shall not be included within the annual
22 appropriations act, all available moneys in the Clean Communities
23 Program Fund shall be appropriated annually solely for the
24 following purposes and no others:

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26 Communities Program Fund shall be used for a State program of
27 litter pickup and removal and of enforcement of litter-related laws
28 and ordinances in State owned places and areas that are accessible
29 to the public. Moneys in the fund may also be used by the State to
30 abate graffiti;

31 b. 50 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
32 Communities Program Fund shall be distributed as State aid to
33 eligible municipalities with total housing units of 200 or more for
34 programs of litter pickup and removal, including establishing an
35 "Adopt-A-Highway" program, of public education and information
36 relating to litter abatement and of enforcement of litter-related laws
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39 units of a qualifying municipality bear to the total housing units in
40 the State. Total housing units shall be determined using the most
41 recent federal decennial population estimates for New Jersey and its
42 municipalities, filed in the office of the Secretary of State. Moneys
43 in the fund may also be used by an eligible municipality to abate
44 graffiti;

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SEN committee amendments adopted February 10, 2025.

1 c. 30 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
2 Communities Program Fund shall be distributed as State aid to
3 eligible municipalities with total housing units of 200 or more for
4 programs of litter pickup and removal, including establishing an
5 "Adopt-A-Highway" program, of public education and information
6 relating to litter abatement and of enforcement of litter-related laws
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20 enforcement of litter-related laws and ordinances. The amount of
21 State aid due each county shall be solely calculated based on the
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23 bears to the total county road mileage within the State. For the
24 purposes of this subsection, "county road mileage" means that road
25 mileage under the jurisdiction of counties, as determined by the
26 Department of Transportation. Moneys in the fund may also be
27 used by an eligible county to abate graffiti;

28 e. No eligible municipality shall receive less than \$4,000 in
29 State aid as apportioned pursuant to subsections b. and c. of this
30 section. A municipality or county may use up to five percent of its
31 State aid for administrative expenses;

32 f. Prior to the distribution of funds pursuant to subsections a.
33 through d. of this section:

34 (1) \$375,000 of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
35 Communities Program Fund shall be annually appropriated to the
36 department and made available on July 1 of every year to the
37 organization under contract with the department pursuant to section
38 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) for a Statewide public
39 information and education program concerning antilittering
40 activities and other aspects of responsible solid waste handling
41 behavior, of which up to \$75,000 shall be used exclusively to
42 finance an annual Statewide television, radio, newspaper and other
43 media advertising campaign to promote antilittering and responsible
44 solid waste handling behavior.

45 (2) **【**in each of the first three years after the effective date of
46 P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.),**】** \$500,000 of the estimated
47 annual balance of the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be
48 annually appropriated to the department and made available on July

1 1 of each year to the organization under contract with the
2 department pursuant to section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218)
3 for the Statewide public information and education program
4 developed pursuant to subsection b. of section of section 8 of
5 P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.133), including the '【distribution】
6 redistribution¹ of reusable bags.

7 The organization under contract with the department pursuant to
8 section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) shall, no later than the
9 date on which the contract period concludes, submit a report to the
10 Governor and the Legislature concerning its activities during the
11 contract period and any recommendations concerning improving the
12 program. Every eligible municipality and county shall cooperate
13 with the organization under contract with the department pursuant
14 to section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) in providing
15 information concerning its program of litter pickup and removal.

16 No later than May 31, 2008, 25 percent of the estimated annual
17 balance of the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be
18 appropriated to the State Recycling Fund established pursuant to
19 section 5 of P.L.1981, c.278 (C.13:1E-96). These moneys shall be
20 used by the Department of Environmental Protection for direct
21 recycling grants to counties and municipalities, up to a maximum
22 appropriation of \$4,000,000.

23 g. As used in this section, "graffiti" means any inscription
24 drawn, painted or otherwise made on a bridge, building, public
25 transportation vehicle, rock, wall, sidewalk, street or other exposed
26 surface on public property.

27 The department may carry forward any unexpended balances in
28 the Clean Communities Program Fund as of June 30 of each year.

29 (cf: P.L.2020, c.117, s.10)

30

31 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

SENATE ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3711

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 10, 2025

The Senate Environment and Energy Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 3711.

As amended, this bill would make the annual allocation of \$500,000 from the "Clean Communities Program Fund" to the Department of Environmental Protection to fund public outreach efforts related to the State's single-use plastics program reduction permanent. Under current law, this annual allocation only applies for first three years after the effective date of P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.).

The Clean Communities Program Fund (fund) receives moneys from user fees paid by the manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors, and retailers of litter-generating products, as well as penalties, and other voluntary donations. P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.), the law banning single-use plastics, included the allocation of \$500,000 from the fund to pay for the Clean Communities Program for education and implementation of the law. The Clean Communities Program has used these funds, in part, for the establishment of a bag redistribution program that collects reusable bags and repurposes them for use by food banks, food pantries, and other food distribution programs.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended to bill to clarify that the annual allocation of \$500,000 from the "Clean Communities Program Fund" to the Department of Environmental Protection to fund public outreach efforts related to the State's single-use plastics program reduction includes the redistribution of reusable bags, rather than the distribution of reusable bags.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 3711

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 26, 2025

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 3711 (1R).

As reported, this bill would make the annual allocation of \$500,000 from the "Clean Communities Program Fund" to the Department of Environmental Protection to fund public outreach efforts related to the State's single-use plastics program reduction permanent. Under current law, this annual allocation only applies for first three years after the effective date of P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.).

The Clean Communities Program Fund (fund) receives moneys from user fees paid by the manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors, and retailers of litter-generating products, as well as penalties, and other voluntary donations. P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.), the law banning single-use plastics, included the allocation of \$500,000 from the fund to pay for the Clean Communities Program for education and implementation of the law. The Clean Communities Program has used these funds, in part, for the establishment of a bag redistribution program that collects reusable bags and repurposes them for use by food banks, food pantries, and other food distribution programs.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill is not certified a requiring a fiscal note.

ASSEMBLY, No. 5153

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 19, 2024

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman SHAMA A. HAIDER

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman WILLIAM W. SPEARMAN

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Co-Sponsored by:

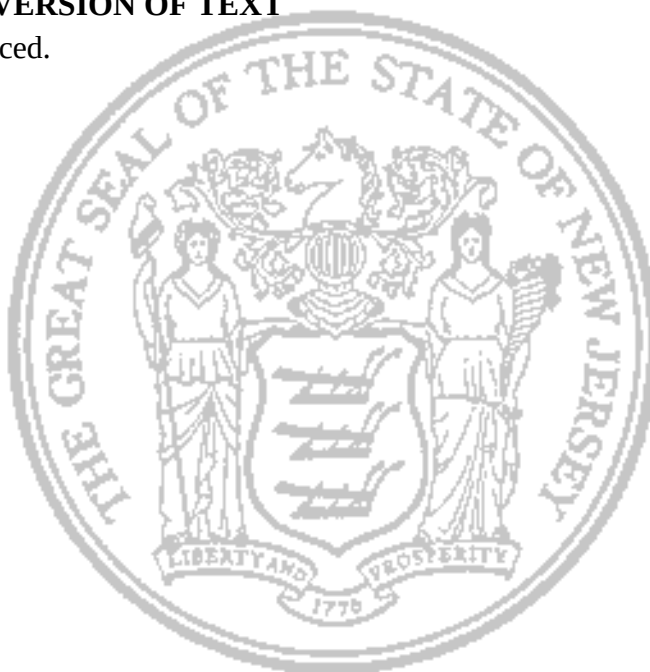
Assemblywomen Ramirez, Hall, Assemblymen Miller and Hutchison

SYNOPSIS

Makes annual allocation of \$500,000 from Clean Communities Program Fund for public outreach concerning single-use plastics reduction program permanent.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 4/10/2025)

1 **AN ACT** concerning funding for public outreach concerning single-
2 use plastics reduction program and amending P.L.2002, c.128.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. Section 5 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-217) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 5. The Clean Communities Program Fund is established as a
10 nonlapsing, revolving fund in the Department of the Treasury. The
11 Clean Communities Program Fund shall be administered by the
12 Department of Environmental Protection and credited, in addition to
13 any appropriations made thereto, with all user fees imposed
14 pursuant to section 4 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-216) or penalties
15 imposed pursuant to section 10 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-222),
16 and any sums received as voluntary contributions from private
17 sources. Interest received on moneys in the Clean Communities
18 Program Fund shall be credited to the fund. Unless otherwise
19 expressly provided by the specific appropriation thereof by the
20 Legislature, which shall take the form of a discrete legislative
21 appropriations act and shall not be included within the annual
22 appropriations act, all available moneys in the Clean Communities
23 Program Fund shall be appropriated annually solely for the
24 following purposes and no others:

25 a. 10 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
26 Communities Program Fund shall be used for a State program of
27 litter pickup and removal and of enforcement of litter-related laws
28 and ordinances in State owned places and areas that are accessible
29 to the public. Moneys in the fund may also be used by the State to
30 abate graffiti;

31 b. 50 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
32 Communities Program Fund shall be distributed as State aid to
33 eligible municipalities with total housing units of 200 or more for
34 programs of litter pickup and removal, including establishing an
35 "Adopt-A-Highway" program, of public education and information
36 relating to litter abatement and of enforcement of litter-related laws
37 and ordinances. The amount of State aid due each municipality
38 shall be solely calculated based on the proportion which the housing
39 units of a qualifying municipality bear to the total housing units in
40 the State. Total housing units shall be determined using the most
41 recent federal decennial population estimates for New Jersey and its
42 municipalities, filed in the office of the Secretary of State. Moneys
43 in the fund may also be used by an eligible municipality to abate
44 graffiti;

45 c. 30 percent of the estimated annual balance of the
46 CleanCommunities Program Fund shall be distributed as State aid

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 to eligible municipalities with total housing units of 200 or more for
2 programs of litter pickup and removal, including establishing an
3 "Adopt-A-Highway" program, of public education and information
4 relating to litter abatement and of enforcement of litter-related laws
5 and ordinances. The amount of State aid due each municipality
6 shall be solely calculated based on the proportion which the
7 municipal road mileage of a qualifying municipality bears to the
8 total municipal road mileage within the State. For the purposes of
9 this subsection, "municipal road mileage" means that road mileage
10 under the jurisdiction of municipalities, as determined by the
11 Department of Transportation. Moneys in the fund may also be
12 used by an eligible municipality to abate graffiti;

13 d. 10 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
14 Communities Program Fund shall be distributed as State aid to
15 eligible counties for programs of litter pickup and removal,
16 including establishing an "Adopt-A-Highway" program, of public
17 education and information relating to litter abatement and of
18 enforcement of litter-related laws and ordinances. The amount of
19 State aid due each county shall be solely calculated based on the
20 proportion which the county road mileage of an eligible county
21 bears to the total county road mileage within the State. For the
22 purposes of this subsection, "county road mileage" means that road
23 mileage under the jurisdiction of counties, as determined by the
24 Department of Transportation. Moneys in the fund may also be
25 used by an eligible county to abate graffiti;

26 e. No eligible municipality shall receive less than \$4,000 in
27 State aid as apportioned pursuant to subsections b. and c. of this
28 section. A municipality or county may use up to five percent of its
29 State aid for administrative expenses;

30 f. Prior to the distribution of funds pursuant to subsections a.
31 through d. of this section:

32 (1) \$375,000 of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
33 Communities Program Fund shall be annually appropriated to the
34 department and made available on July 1 of every year to the
35 organization under contract with the department pursuant to section
36 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) for a Statewide public
37 information and education program concerning antilittering
38 activities and other aspects of responsible solid waste handling
39 behavior, of which up to \$75,000 shall be used exclusively to
40 finance an annual Statewide television, radio, newspaper and other
41 media advertising campaign to promote antilittering and responsible
42 solid waste handling behavior.

43 (2) **【**in each of the first three years after the effective date of
44 P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.),**】** \$500,000 of the estimated
45 annual balance of the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be
46 annually appropriated to the department and made available on July
47 1 of each year to the organization under contract with the
48 department pursuant to section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218)

1 for the Statewide public information and education program
2 developed pursuant to subsection b. of section of section 8 of
3 P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.133), including the distribution of
4 reusable bags.

5 The organization under contract with the department pursuant to
6 section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) shall, no later than the
7 date on which the contract period concludes, submit a report to the
8 Governor and the Legislature concerning its activities during the
9 contract period and any recommendations concerning improving the
10 program. Every eligible municipality and county shall cooperate
11 with the organization under contract with the department pursuant
12 to section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) in providing
13 information concerning its program of litter pickup and removal.

14 No later than May 31, 2008, 25 percent of the estimated annual
15 balance of the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be
16 appropriated to the State Recycling Fund established pursuant to
17 section 5 of P.L.1981, c.278 (C.13:1E-96). These moneys shall be
18 used by the Department of Environmental Protection for direct
19 recycling grants to counties and municipalities, up to a maximum
20 appropriation of \$4,000,000.

21 g. As used in this section, "graffiti" means any inscription
22 drawn, painted or otherwise made on a bridge, building, public
23 transportation vehicle, rock, wall, sidewalk, street or other exposed
24 surface on public property.

25 The department may carry forward any unexpended balances in
26 the Clean Communities Program Fund as of June 30 of each year.
27 (cf: P.L.2020, c.117, s.10)

28
29 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
30
31

32 STATEMENT

33
34 This bill would make the annual allocation of \$500,000 from the
35 "Clean Communities Program Fund" to the Department of
36 Environmental Protection to fund public outreach efforts related to
37 the State's single-use plastics program reduction permanent. Under
38 current law, this annual allocation only applies for first three years
39 after the effective date of P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.).

40 The Clean Communities Program Fund (fund) receives moneys
41 from user fees paid by the manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors,
42 and retailers of litter-generating products, as well as penalties, and
43 other voluntary donations. P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.),
44 the law banning single-use plastics, included the allocation of
45 \$500,000 from the fund to pay for the Clean Communities Program
46 for education and implementation of the law. The Clean
47 Communities Program has used these funds, in part, for the
48 establishment of a bag redistribution program that collects reusable

- 1 bags and repurposes them for use by food banks, food pantries, and
- 2 other food distribution programs.

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 5153

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 19, 2024

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman SHAMA A. HAIDER

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman WILLIAM W. SPEARMAN

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Co-Sponsored by:

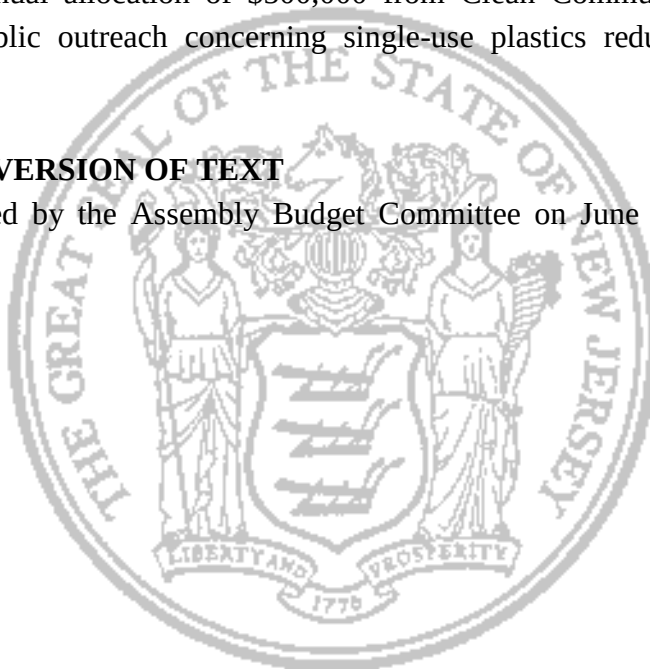
**Assemblywomen Ramirez, Hall, Assemblymen Miller, Hutchison,
Assemblywoman Donlon, Assemblyman Karabinchak, Assemblywomen
Speight, Drulis, Assemblyman Freiman and Assemblywoman Peterpaul**

SYNOPSIS

Makes annual allocation of \$500,000 from Clean Communities Program Fund for public outreach concerning single-use plastics reduction program permanent.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Budget Committee on June 26, 2025, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2025)

1 **AN ACT** concerning funding for public outreach concerning single-
2 use plastics reduction program and amending P.L.2002, c.128.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. Section 5 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-217) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 5. The Clean Communities Program Fund is established as a
10 nonlapsing, revolving fund in the Department of the Treasury. The
11 Clean Communities Program Fund shall be administered by the
12 Department of Environmental Protection and credited, in addition to
13 any appropriations made thereto, with all user fees imposed pursuant
14 to section 4 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-216) or penalties imposed
15 pursuant to section 10 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-222), and any sums
16 received as voluntary contributions from private sources. Interest
17 received on moneys in the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be
18 credited to the fund. Unless otherwise expressly provided by the
19 specific appropriation thereof by the Legislature, which shall take the
20 form of a discrete legislative appropriations act and shall not be
21 included within the annual appropriations act, all available moneys in
22 the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be appropriated annually
23 solely for the following purposes and no others:

24 a. 10 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
25 Communities Program Fund shall be used for a State program of litter
26 pickup and removal and of enforcement of litter-related laws and
27 ordinances in State owned places and areas that are accessible to the
28 public. Moneys in the fund may also be used by the State to abate
29 graffiti;

30 b. 50 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
31 Communities Program Fund shall be distributed as State aid to eligible
32 municipalities with total housing units of 200 or more for programs of
33 litter pickup and removal, including establishing an "Adopt-A-
34 Highway" program, of public education and information relating to
35 litter abatement and of enforcement of litter-related laws and
36 ordinances. The amount of State aid due each municipality shall be
37 solely calculated based on the proportion which the housing units of a
38 qualifying municipality bear to the total housing units in the State.
39 Total housing units shall be determined using the most recent federal
40 decennial population estimates for New Jersey and its municipalities,
41 filed in the office of the Secretary of State. Moneys in the fund may
42 also be used by an eligible municipality to abate graffiti;

43 c. 30 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
44 Communities Program Fund shall be distributed as State aid to eligible
45 municipalities with total housing units of 200 or more for programs of

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly ABU committee amendments adopted June 26, 2025.

1 litter pickup and removal, including establishing an "Adopt-A-
2 Highway" program, of public education and information relating to
3 litter abatement and of enforcement of litter-related laws and
4 ordinances. The amount of State aid due each municipality shall be
5 solely calculated based on the proportion which the municipal road
6 mileage of a qualifying municipality bears to the total municipal road
7 mileage within the State. For the purposes of this subsection,
8 "municipal road mileage" means that road mileage under the
9 jurisdiction of municipalities, as determined by the Department of
10 Transportation. Moneys in the fund may also be used by an eligible
11 municipality to abate graffiti;

12 d. 10 percent of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
13 Communities Program Fund shall be distributed as State aid to eligible
14 counties for programs of litter pickup and removal, including
15 establishing an "Adopt-A-Highway" program, of public education and
16 information relating to litter abatement and of enforcement of litter-
17 related laws and ordinances. The amount of State aid due each county
18 shall be solely calculated based on the proportion which the county
19 road mileage of an eligible county bears to the total county road
20 mileage within the State. For the purposes of this subsection, "county
21 road mileage" means that road mileage under the jurisdiction of
22 counties, as determined by the Department of Transportation. Moneys
23 in the fund may also be used by an eligible county to abate graffiti;

24 e. No eligible municipality shall receive less than \$4,000 in State
25 aid as apportioned pursuant to subsections b. and c. of this section. A
26 municipality or county may use up to five percent of its State aid for
27 administrative expenses;

28 f. Prior to the distribution of funds pursuant to subsections a.
29 through d. of this section:

30 (1) \$375,000 of the estimated annual balance of the Clean
31 Communities Program Fund shall be annually appropriated to the
32 department and made available on July 1 of every year to the
33 organization under contract with the department pursuant to section 6
34 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) for a Statewide public information
35 and education program concerning antilittering activities and other
36 aspects of responsible solid waste handling behavior, of which up to
37 \$75,000 shall be used exclusively to finance an annual Statewide
38 television, radio, newspaper and other media advertising campaign to
39 promote antilittering and responsible solid waste handling behavior.

40 (2) [in each of the first three years after the effective date of
41 P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.),] \$500,000 of the estimated
42 annual balance of the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be
43 annually appropriated to the department and made available on July 1
44 of each year to the organization under contract with the department
45 pursuant to section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) for the
46 Statewide public information and education program developed
47 pursuant to subsection b. of section of section 8 of P.L.2020, c.117

1 (C.13:1E-99.133), including the '【distribution】 redistribution'¹ of
2 reusable bags.

3 The organization under contract with the department pursuant to
4 section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) shall, no later than the date
5 on which the contract period concludes, submit a report to the
6 Governor and the Legislature concerning its activities during the
7 contract period and any recommendations concerning improving the
8 program. Every eligible municipality and county shall cooperate with
9 the organization under contract with the department pursuant to
10 section 6 of P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-218) in providing information
11 concerning its program of litter pickup and removal.

12 No later than May 31, 2008, 25 percent of the estimated annual
13 balance of the Clean Communities Program Fund shall be appropriated
14 to the State Recycling Fund established pursuant to section 5 of
15 P.L.1981, c.278 (C.13:1E-96). These moneys shall be used by the
16 Department of Environmental Protection for direct recycling grants to
17 counties and municipalities, up to a maximum appropriation of
18 \$4,000,000.

19 g. As used in this section, "graffiti" means any inscription drawn,
20 painted or otherwise made on a bridge, building, public transportation
21 vehicle, rock, wall, sidewalk, street or other exposed surface on public
22 property.

23 The department may carry forward any unexpended balances in the
24 Clean Communities Program Fund as of June 30 of each year.
25 (cf: P.L.2020, c.117, s.10)

26

27 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

ASSEMBLY ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND
SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 5153

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 27, 2025

The Assembly Environment, Natural Resources, and Solid Waste Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 5153.

In 2020, the State Legislature enacted a law, at P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.), banning single-use plastics. This law initially provided for an annual allocation of \$500,000, from the "Clean Communities Program Fund" (fund) to the Department of Environmental Protection, in each of the first three fiscal years following the bill's effective date, in order to fund the public education and outreach efforts being undertaken in relation to, the Statewide reduction in single-use plastics, as provided by P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.). The funds thus far allocated, for these purposes, have been used, in part, to establish a bag redistribution program that collects reusable bags and repurposes them for use by food banks, food pantries, and other food distribution programs.

This bill would eliminate the current three-year limitation on allocations from the fund, for such purposes, and it would provide, instead, for \$500,000 to be annually allocated from the fund, to the Department of Environmental Protection, on a permanent and ongoing basis, for the purposes of financing public education and outreach efforts related to the State's single-use plastics reduction program.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 5153

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 19, 2025

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 5153.

As reported, in 2020, the State Legislature enacted a law, at P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.), banning single-use plastics. This law initially provided for an annual allocation of \$500,000, from the "Clean Communities Program Fund" (fund) to the Department of Environmental Protection, in each of the first three fiscal years following the bill's effective date, in order to fund the public education and outreach efforts being undertaken regarding the Statewide reduction in single-use plastics, as provided by P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.). The funds thus far allocated, for these purposes, have been used, in part, to establish a bag redistribution program that collects reusable bags and repurposes them for use by food banks, food pantries, and other food distribution programs.

This bill would eliminate the current three-year limitation on allocations from the fund, for such purposes, and it would provide, instead, for \$500,000 to be annually allocated from the fund, to the Department of Environmental Protection, on a permanent and ongoing basis, for the purposes of financing public education and outreach efforts related to the State's single-use plastics reduction program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill is not certified as requiring a fiscal note.

ASSEMBLY BUDGET COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 5153

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 26, 2025

The Assembly Budget Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 5153.

As amended, this bill would make the annual allocation of \$500,000 from the "Clean Communities Program Fund" to the Department of Environmental Protection to fund public outreach efforts related to the State's single-use plastics program reduction permanent. Under current law, this annual allocation only applies for first three years after the effective date of P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.).

The Clean Communities Program Fund (fund) receives moneys from user fees paid by the manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors, and retailers of litter-generating products, as well as penalties, and other voluntary donations. P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.), the law banning single-use plastics, included the allocation of \$500,000 from the fund to pay for the Clean Communities Program for education and implementation of the law. The Clean Communities Program has used these funds, in part, for the establishment of a bag redistribution program that collects reusable bags and repurposes them for use by food banks, food pantries, and other food distribution programs.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended to bill to clarify that the annual allocation of \$500,000 from the "Clean Communities Program Fund" to the Department of Environmental Protection to fund public outreach efforts related to the State's single-use plastics program reduction includes the redistribution of reusable bags, rather than the distribution of reusable bags.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill has not been certified as requiring a fiscal note.

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

Posted on - 07/22/2025

TRENTON – Today, Governor Murphy signed the following bills into law:

S2167/A1406 (Ruiz, Vitale/Haider, Swain) – Requires public and certain nonpublic schools to comply with breakfast and lunch standards adopted by USDA

S3052/A4878 (Johnson, Space/Park, Tucker, Speight) – Concerns grade options at public institutions of higher education for service member and dependents unable to complete course due to military obligation

S3711/A5153 (McKeon, Zwicker/Haider, Reynolds-Jackson, Spearman) – Makes annual allocation of \$500,000 from Clean Communities Program Fund for public outreach concerning single-use plastics reduction program permanent.

SCS for S3982/A4592 (Ruiz/Reynolds-Jackson/Carter, Morales) – Requires certain information be provided to parent at least two business days prior to annual Individualized Education Program (IEP) team meeting; establishes IEP Improvement Working Group in DOE.

S4263/A5408 (Vitale, Scutari/Carter, Sumter, Speight) – Revises certain provisions concerning, and establishes certain education and data reporting requirements related to, involuntary commitment.

S4426/A5622 (Burzichelli, Singer/Schnall, Peterpaul, Kane) – Appropriates funds to DEP for environmental infrastructure projects for FY2026

S4439/A5729 (Lagana, Cryan/Swain) – Establishes protections for student-athletes and certain institutions of higher education concerning name, image, or likeness compensation; repeals “New Jersey Fair Play Act.”

A3128/SCS for S4071/S3155 (Coughlin, Wimberly, Pintor Marin/Ruiz, Scutari, Singleton, Greenstein, Turner) – Authorizes HMFA to use certain tax credits; directs HMFA to conduct tax credit auctions to provide financial assistance for certain housing purposes

A4897/S3769 (Carter, Atkins, Reynolds-Jackson/Cryan, Amato) – Revises law requiring certain student identification cards to contain telephone number for suicide prevention hotline

A5170/S4027 (Pintor Marin, Speight/Cruz-Perez, Pou) – Requires State to purchase certain unused tax credits issued under New Jersey Economic Recovery Act of 2020

A5546/S4388 (Verrelli, Reynolds-Jackson/Turner) – Concerns financial powers and responsibilities of Capital City Redevelopment Corporation.

Assemblywomen Donlon and Peterpaul Announce 13 Bills Signed Into Law This Summer

TINTON FALLS - The Governor signed 13 of Assemblywoman Margie Donlon and Assemblywoman Luanne Peterpaul's bills into law this summer.

Either Assemblywoman Donlon or Assemblywoman Peterpaul, or both, and Senator Vin Gopal, (D-Monmouth) were the prime sponsors of four of the bills and cosponsors of the remaining nine.

"Many of these bills support small businesses and protect consumers. They reflect the concerns that Legislative District 11 residents tell us are important to them, such as utility costs, as we travel around the district talking to businesses and residents," said Assemblywoman Peterpaul.



The bills on which the Assemblywomen were primary sponsors include A5768, which requires the BPU to revise community solar program targets and directs the agency to open registration by October 1, 2025 for an additional 3,000 megawatts of community solar projects. Senator Gopal was a primary sponsor of the Senate version. Another of their bills, A5141, establishes an historic distillery license to allow the manufacturing and consumption of distilled alcoholic beverages on-and-off premises under certain circumstances by a licensee on the NJ Register of Historic Places. Senator Gopal also was a primary sponsor.

"Our sponsored bills also address healthcare concerns, which are a top priority for the LD11 office, and ensure healthcare insurance is more accessible and affordable," said Donlon, who is a physician and primary sponsor of A5810, which promotes equity in the health insurance appeal process. "This bill eliminates fees for appeals against health insurance carriers that deny, reduce, or terminate benefits."

Assemblywoman Donlon and Senator Gopal also were primary sponsors of A5199, a new law that requires eligible resident and fellow physicians employed by Rutgers University, including University Hospital, and their dependents, receive coverage in the State Health Benefits Plan (SHBP) on the first day of employment.

"This legislation corrects a situation that resulted in these healthcare professionals working in hospital environments, where they are exposed to diseases, infections and other dangers, but didn't have health coverage for a period of time," Gopal said.

The LD11 legislators also cosponsored nine other bills that became the law since June 30 of this year. These bills include:

[A5792](#) - Provides for workers' compensation coverage of certain counseling services for first responders and ensures that mental health-related communications are confidential.

[A5687](#) - Establishes the "Next New Jersey Manufacturing Program" to incentivize in-state manufacturing investments and job creation.

[A5466](#) - Requires the BPU to study the effects of data centers on electricity costs.

[A5463](#) - Requires electric public utilities to submit an annual report on voting to the BPU.

[A5447](#) - Prohibits the sweepstakes model of wagering; establishes new penalties for unlawful gambling operations and practices; directs Division of Consumer Affairs and Division of Gaming Enforcement to enforce penalties.

[S4567](#) - Appropriates \$107,999,000 from constitutionally dedicated Corporate Business Tax revenues and various Green Acres funds to the DEP to make grants to local governments for open space acquisition, park development, and planning projects.

[S4476](#) - Permits awarding of contracts for certain preschool education services by resolution of the board of education; extends the maximum length of preschool education services contracts to three years. Senator Gopal was a primary sponsor in the Senate.

[S3910](#) - Makes various changes to the provision of preschool aid and facilities requirements; establishes Universal Preschool Implementation Steering Committee; requires full-day kindergarten in all school districts.

[S3711](#) - Makes annual allocations of \$500,000 from the Clean Communities Program Fund for public outreach concerning single-use plastics reduction programs permanent.

Posted on: January 2, 2025

Bill Allowing Public Bodies to Continue Using Newspapers for Public Notices Signed into Law

Senate Republican Leader Anthony M. Bucco (R-25), Deputy Majority Leader Paul Sarlo (D-36), and Senate President Nick Scutari's (D-22) bill to allow public bodies to use the online version of their official designated newspaper to publish public notices and legal advertisements until March 31, 2025, was signed into law by Governor Murphy.



"This stop-gap measure will give us time to establish a plan that both recognizes and utilizes technological advancements while maintaining the familiarity and transparency that constituents are accustomed to," said Sen. Bucco. "Now that it is signed into law, we can slow down the process, bring all stakeholders to the table, and ensure we find a solution that works for everyone."

Due to the impending closure of several major print newspapers in New Jersey, there has been confusion among local governments as to how to proceed while also staying in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

You can read the full bill (S-3957) [here](#).