

52:4B-19.1 LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2025 **CHAPTER:** 120

NJSA: 52:4B-19.1 Requires VCCO to issue annual report to Governor and Legislature.

BILL NO: A1948 (Substituted for S2223)

SPONSOR(S) Speight, Shanique and others

DATE INTRODUCED: 1/9/2024

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** Public Safety & Preparedness

SENATE: --

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: 01/30/2025

SENATE: 06/30/2025

DATE OF APPROVAL: 8/4/2025

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (A1948 enacted)

ADVANCE LAW Yes

PAMPHLET LAW Yes

A1948

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

REPRINT(S): No

TECHNICAL REVIEW OF BILL: Yes APS 12/16/24 TR

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** Yes

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

S2223

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

REPRINT(S): No

TECHNICAL REVIEW OF BILL: Yes SLP 5/16/24 TR

SENATE: Yes

(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:

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or <mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org>

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: No

CL/MMcB

P.L. 2025, CHAPTER 120, *approved August 4, 2025*
Assembly, No. 1948

1 **AN ACT** requiring the Victims of Crime Compensation Office to
2 annually report on compensation awarded to crime victims and
3 supplementing chapter 4B of Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

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

1. a. The Attorney General shall direct the Executive Director of the Victims of Crime Compensation Office in the Department of Law and Public Safety to annually submit to the Governor and the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1) a report summarizing compensation awarded to victims and other information including, but not limited to, applications for compensation, the number of applications granted and denied and the reasons for the dispositions, the amount of awards, demographics concerning awards, services for which awards were provided, funding received by the office, and any other information deemed relevant by the Attorney General and the executive director.

b. The report shall be based on the State fiscal year and shall be completed within six months following the last day of the previous fiscal year.

22 c. The report shall be published on the official website of the
23 Department of Law and Public Safety.

25 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

30 Requires VCCO to issue annual report to Governor and
31 Legislature.

CHAPTER 120

AN ACT requiring the Victims of Crime Compensation Office to annually report on compensation awarded to crime victims and supplementing chapter 4B of Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

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

C.52:4B-19.1 Victims of Crime Compensation Office, annual report to Governor, Legislature.

1. a. The Attorney General shall direct the Executive Director of the Victims of Crime Compensation Office in the Department of Law and Public Safety to annually submit to the Governor and the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1) a report summarizing compensation awarded to victims and other information including, but not limited to, applications for compensation, the number of applications granted and denied and the reasons for the dispositions, the amount of awards, demographics concerning awards, services for which awards were provided, funding received by the office, and any other information deemed relevant by the Attorney General and the executive director.

b. The report shall be based on the State fiscal year and shall be completed within six months following the last day of the previous fiscal year.

c. The report shall be published on the official website of the Department of Law and Public Safety.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved August 4, 2025.

ASSEMBLY, No. 1948

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman SHANIQUE SPEIGHT

District 29 (Essex and Hudson)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman BENJIE E. WIMBERLY

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Stanley and Assemblywoman Lopez

SYNOPSIS

Requires VCCO to issue annual report to Governor and Legislature.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/4/2024)

ASSEMBLY, No. 1948

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman SHANIQUE SPEIGHT

District 29 (Essex and Hudson)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman BENJIE E. WIMBERLY

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex and Hudson)

Senator DECLAN J. O'SCANLON, JR.

District 13 (Monmouth)

Co-Sponsored by:

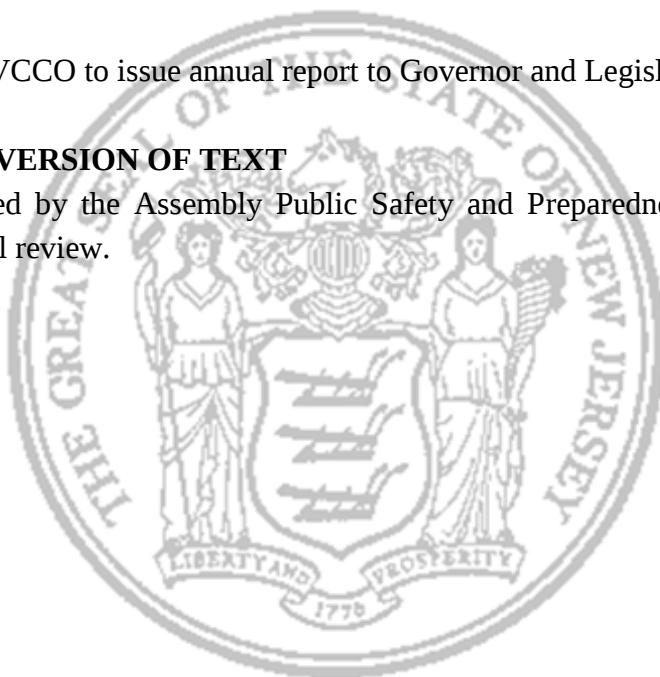
**Assemblyman Stanley, Assemblywomen Lopez, Murphy, Park, Flynn,
Donlon, Peterpaul and Senator McKnight**

SYNOPSIS

Requires VCCO to issue annual report to Governor and Legislature.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Public Safety and Preparedness Committee
with technical review.



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

1 AN ACT requiring the Victims of Crime Compensation Office to
2 annually report on compensation awarded to crime victims and
3 supplementing chapter 4B of Title 52 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. The Attorney General shall direct the Executive Director
9 of the Victims of Crime Compensation Office in the Department of
10 Law and Public Safety to annually submit to the Governor and the
11 Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1)
12 a report summarizing compensation awarded to victims and other
13 information including, but not limited to, applications for
14 compensation, the number of applications granted and denied and
15 the reasons for the dispositions, the amount of awards,
16 demographics concerning awards, services for which awards were
17 provided, funding received by the office, and any other information
18 deemed relevant by the Attorney General and the executive director.

19 b. The report shall be based on the State fiscal year and shall be
20 completed within six months following the last day of the previous
21 fiscal year.

22 c. The report shall be published on the official website of the
23 Department of Law and Public Safety.
24

25 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

ASSEMBLY PUBLIC SAFETY AND PREPAREDNESS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1948

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 16, 2024

The Assembly Public Safety and Preparedness Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1948.

As reported by the committee, this bill codifies the current policy of the Victims of Crime Compensation Office (VCCO) to issue an annual report summarizing compensation awards granted to eligible victims.

Under the bill, the report is to summarize compensation awarded to victims during the previous fiscal year. The number of applications for compensation, the number of applications granted and denied and the reasons for the dispositions, the amount of awards, demographics concerning awards, services for which awards were provided, funding received by the office, and any other information deemed relevant by the VCCO also is to be included in the report.

The bill requires the report to be completed within six months following the last day of the previous fiscal year.

The report is to be issued to the Governor and the Legislature, as well as made available on the official website of the Department of Law and Public Safety.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2024-2025 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

SENATE, No. 2223

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex and Hudson)

Senator DECLAN J. O'SCANLON, JR.

District 13 (Monmouth)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator McKnight

SYNOPSIS

Requires VCCO to issue annual report to Governor and Legislature.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/16/2024)

SENATE, No. 2223

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex and Hudson)

Senator DECLAN J. O'SCANLON, JR.

District 13 (Monmouth)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator McKnight

SYNOPSIS

Requires VCCO to issue annual report to Governor and Legislature.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Law and Public Safety Committee with technical review.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/16/2024)

1 **AN ACT** requiring the Victims of Crime Compensation Office to
2 annually report on compensation awarded to crime victims and
3 supplementing chapter 4B of Title 52 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. The Attorney General shall direct the Executive Director
9 of the Victims of Crime Compensation Office in the Department of
10 Law and Public Safety to annually submit to the Governor and the
11 Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1)
12 a report summarizing compensation awarded to victims and other
13 information including, but not limited to, applications for
14 compensation, the number of applications granted and denied and
15 the reasons for the dispositions, the amount of awards,
16 demographics concerning awards, services for which awards were
17 provided, funding received by the office, and any other information
18 deemed relevant by the Attorney General and the executive director.

19 b. The report shall be based on the State fiscal year and shall be
20 completed within six months following the last day of the previous
21 fiscal year.

22 c. The report shall be published on the official website of the
23 Department of Law and Public Safety.

24
25 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2223

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 16, 2024

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2223.

As reported by the committee, this bill codifies the current policy of the Victims of Crime Compensation Office (VCCO) to issue an annual report summarizing compensation awards granted to eligible victims.

Under the bill, the report is to summarize compensation awarded to victims during the previous fiscal year. The number of applications for compensation, the number of applications granted and denied and the reasons for the dispositions, the amount of awards, demographics concerning awards, services for which awards were provided, funding received by the office, and any other information deemed relevant by the VCCO also is to be included in the report.

The bill requires the report to be completed within six months following the last day of the previous fiscal year.

The report is to be issued to the Governor and the Legislature, as well as made available on the official website of the Department of Law and Public Safety.

This bill was prefiled for introduction in the 2024-2025 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

Acting Governor Way Takes Action on Legislation

Posted on - 08/4/2025

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

S-862/A-2596 (A.M. Bucco, Diegnan/Karabinchak, Calabrese) - Requires DOT to provide additional information in annual report on pavement condition; makes report available to public

S-4567/A-5860 (Greenstein, Singleton/Morales, Singh, Swain) - Appropriates \$107,999,000 from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues and various Green Acres funds to DEP for local government open space acquisition, park development, and planning projects, and for certain administrative expenses

A-1948/S-2223 (Speight, Reynolds-Jackson, Wimberly/Ruiz, O'Scanlon) - Requires VCCO to issue annual report to Governor and Legislature

Governor Phil Murphy

Posted on: August 6, 2025

O'Scanlon Bill to Codify Reporting of Crime Victim Compensation Signed into Law

Acting Governor Tahesha Way signed bipartisan legislation sponsored by Senator Declan O'Scanlon (R-13) to ensure continued transparency and accountability from the Victims of Crime Compensation Office (VCCO). The bill codifies the



VCCO's existing practice of issuing annual reports to the Governor and State Legislature summarizing financial awards granted to victims of violent crime.

"Good policy shouldn't rely on good fortune. Now, with the Acting Governor's signature, this practice that was already in place at the VCCO is codified into law ensuring continued transparency—especially as structural changes are considered to the VCCO," said Sen. O'Scanlon. "This annual report helps us as lawmakers understand how victim compensation is awarded and ensures that the system continues to work to the best of its ability for survivors of violent crime."

Under the bill, the VCCO is required to report the number of applications submitted for compensation, reasons for why applications were accepted or denied, the amounts awarded, demographic information, services for which awards were provided, funding received by the office, and any other details the VCCO deem relevant.

You can read the full text of the legislation, [A-1948/S-2223](#) online here.

Posted on: August 4, 2025

Ruiz, Wimberly Bill Increasing Transparency on Victim Compensation Awards Signed Into Law

TRENTON – Today, Acting Governor Way signed legislation sponsored by Senator Majority Leader M. Teresa Ruiz and Senator Benjie Wimberly that increases transparency and accountability within the Victims of Crime Compensation Office (VCCO) by requiring the agency to publish an annual report on compensation awards issued to crime victims in New Jersey.

“Victims of crime deserve not only access to support but confidence that the systems designed to help them are working as intended,” said Senator Majority Leader Ruiz (D-Essex/Hudson).

“This legislation ensures that lawmakers, advocates, and the public clearly understand how victim compensation is being awarded and where improvements may be needed.”

“Accurate and consistent data is essential for effective public policy,” said Senator Wimberly (D-Bergen/Passaic). “By codifying the VCCO’s annual reporting practice, we can shine a light on how well the program is serving victims, identify gaps, and ensure taxpayer dollars are being used effectively to help those in need.”

The bill, S-2223, requires the Attorney General to direct the Executive Director of the VCCO to submit an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature summarizing data related to compensation awards. The report would include the number of applications received, granted, and denied, as well as the reasons for those outcomes, along with award amounts, demographic information, services provided, and funding received by the office.

The legislation aims to strengthen oversight and ensure transparency in the state’s efforts to support crime victims. While the VCCO has issued reports, the most recent publicly available report was for Fiscal Year 2020. This bill ensures that reporting becomes a regular and reliable tool for evaluation.

The annual report would be based on the state fiscal year and must be completed within six months following the close of each fiscal year. It would also be published on the official website of the Department of Law and Public Safety, making the data easily accessible to the public.

The legislation was introduced in response to a 2022 hearing of the Assembly Homeland Security and State Preparedness Committee, which highlighted the disproportionate impact of human trafficking on marginalized communities and the importance of improving access to victim services.

