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**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:** Yes

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** No

**VETO MESSAGE:** Yes

**GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:** Yes

**FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:**

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**REPORTS:** No

**HEARINGS:** No

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:** No

CL/MM

P.L. 2023, CHAPTER 318, *approved January 16, 2024*  
Assembly Committee Substitute (*Second Reprint*) for  
Assembly, Nos. 4821 and 4823

1 AN ACT concerning microplastics and supplementing Title 58 of the  
2 Revised Statutes.

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 “Board” means the Board of Public Utilities.

9 “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Environmental  
10 Protection.

11 “Department” means the Department of Environmental  
12 Protection.

13 <sup>2</sup>“Non-investor-owned public community water system” means a  
14 public community water system or the owner of a public  
15 community water system, as that term is defined by section 3 of  
16 P.L.1977, c.224 (C.58:12A-3), that is not investor-owned.<sup>2</sup>

17 “Public water system” means the same as the term is defined in  
18 section 3 of P.L.1977, c.224 (C.58:12A-3).

19 “System owner or operator” means a board, authority, local  
20 government unit, or other person or entity that owns or operates a  
21 public water system <sup>2</sup>[or a wastewater system]<sup>2</sup> in the State.

22

23 <sup>2</sup>[2. No later than <sup>1</sup>[six months] one year<sup>1</sup> after the effective date  
24 of this act, the Department of Environmental Protection, in  
25 consultation with the Drinking Water Quality Institute established  
26 pursuant to section 10 of P.L.1983, c.443 (C.58:12A-20), shall  
27 establish:

28 a. a definition of the term “microplastics”; and

29 b. <sup>1</sup>[a]<sup>1</sup> standard <sup>1</sup>[methodology] methodologies<sup>1</sup> to be used by  
30 public water systems in the testing of drinking water for  
31 microplastics.]<sup>2</sup>

32

33 <sup>2</sup>[3. No later than three years after the effective date of this act,  
34 the Department of Environmental Protection shall adopt rules and

**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:**

<sup>1</sup>Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted June 22, 2023.

<sup>2</sup>Assembly amendments adopted in accordance with Governor's  
recommendations January 8, 2024.

1 regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"  
2 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), establishing:

3 a. requirements for testing and reporting the concentration of  
4 microplastics in drinking water for a four year period commencing  
5 upon adoption of the rules and regulations, by public water systems,  
6 including public disclosure of test results; and

7 b. criteria to accredit qualified laboratories in New Jersey to  
8 analyze microplastics, which may be the same as used for the  
9 program for the certification of laboratories pursuant to subsection  
10 c. of section 4 of P.L.1977, c.224 (C.58:12A-4).<sup>2</sup>

11

12 <sup>2</sup>[4.] 2.<sup>2</sup> a. Within 30 days after the effective date of this act,  
13 the Department of Environmental Protection <sup>2</sup>[and the Board of  
14 Public Utilities] , in consultation with the Plastics Advisory  
15 Council established pursuant to section 7 of P.L.2020, c.117  
16 (C.13:1E-99.132) where appropriate,<sup>2</sup> shall commence a  
17 comprehensive, collaborative study to evaluate the <sup>2</sup>current<sup>2</sup>  
18 feasibility and benefits of the use of microplastics removal  
19 technologies by system owners or operators to remove microplastics  
20 from drinking water <sup>2</sup>[and wastewater]<sup>2</sup> in the State.

21 The study shall be completed no later than <sup>1</sup>[one year] <sup>2</sup>[two]  
22 three<sup>2</sup> years<sup>1</sup> after the effective date of this act, and shall include  
23 <sup>2</sup>the development of a definition of microplastics in drinking water  
24 and<sup>2</sup> an evaluation of:

25 (1) the short-term and long-term impacts of microplastics on  
26 human health and the environment, including, but not limited to,  
27 ocean and riparian ecosystems, aquatic and marine organisms,  
28 drinking water quality, and the food chain;

29 <sup>2</sup>(2) the origin and migration of microplastics in the State's  
30 waters, and methods for avoiding the accumulation of microplastics  
31 in drinking water and other water resources;<sup>2</sup>

32 <sup>2</sup>[(2)] (3)<sup>2</sup> the beneficial impacts to human health and the  
33 environment that are likely to result from the increased use of  
34 microplastics removal technologies in the State;

35 <sup>2</sup>[(3)] (4)<sup>2</sup> the different types of microplastics removal  
36 technologies that are available, on the market, for use in removing  
37 microplastics from drinking water <sup>2</sup>[and wastewater,]<sup>2</sup> and the  
38 costs thereof;

39 <sup>2</sup>[(4)] (5)<sup>2</sup> the performance capacity of each type of  
40 microplastics removal technology available on the market,  
41 including, but not limited to, the capacity of each microplastics  
42 removal technology to adequately remove microplastics from  
43 drinking water <sup>2</sup>[and wastewater,]<sup>2</sup> and the efficiency and efficacy  
44 of each such technology;

1       <sup>2</sup>[(5)] (6)<sup>2</sup> whether, and the extent to which, each available  
2 microplastics removal technology is currently being used in New  
3 Jersey or other states, or in other countries;

4       <sup>2</sup>(7) appropriate methods for disposal of microplastics that have  
5 been removed from drinking water;<sup>2</sup>

6       <sup>2</sup>[(6)] (8)<sup>2</sup> the feasibility and desirability of establishing a grant  
7 or financing program or<sup>2</sup> financial incentive system, or of using  
8 other available means and methods, such as public-private  
9 partnerships, financial investments, or university involvement, to  
10 encourage and incentivize the development and successful  
11 deployment of new and effective microplastics removal  
12 technologies in the State <sup>2</sup>, with particular attention to the financial  
13 needs of non-investor-owned public community water systems<sup>2</sup> ;  
14 and

15       <sup>2</sup>[(7)] (9)<sup>2</sup> the factors that should be considered, and  
16 determinations that should be made <sup>2</sup>[, by the board and]<sup>2</sup> by the  
17 department <sup>2</sup>[,]<sup>2</sup> when <sup>2</sup>[soliciting and approving] evaluating<sup>2</sup>  
18 proposals for microplastics removal projects in the State.

19       b. The department <sup>2</sup>[and board shall] may, if appropriate<sup>2</sup>  
20 authorize system owners or operators in the State to engage in pilot  
21 microplastics removal projects, with associated pilot project data to  
22 be included in the study conducted pursuant to subsection a. of this  
23 section and in the report produced pursuant to subsection d. of this  
24 section. The department <sup>2</sup>[shall] may<sup>2</sup> solicit and approve  
25 applications for, and take other appropriate action to facilitate, the  
26 implementation of pilot projects for these purposes.

27       c. In conducting the study pursuant to subsection a. of this  
28 section, the department and board shall cooperatively engage in a  
29 robust stakeholder engagement process, which shall include  
30 consultation with, and the solicitation of testimony and information  
31 from:

32       (1) professionals, businesses, organizations, and agencies  
33 having particular experience or expertise in one or more of the  
34 following areas: the operation of water supply <sup>2</sup>[, ] or<sup>2</sup> water  
35 treatment <sup>2</sup>[, or wastewater collection or treatment systems]<sup>2</sup> ; the  
36 operation of water filtering systems or removal technologies; the  
37 proper handling or disposal of microplastics; or the study or  
38 remediation of water pollution or contaminants;

39       (2) <sup>2</sup>[marine biologists, oceanographers,]<sup>2</sup> water quality  
40 specialists, environmental scientists, toxicologists, public health  
41 experts, and other members of appropriate scientific fields;

42       (3) representatives of the plastics manufacturing industry;

43       (4) members of the public; and

44       (5) other relevant and interested parties.

45       d. No later than three months after the study, pursuant to  
46 subsection a. of this section, is concluded, the commissioner <sup>2</sup>[and

1 the President of the board<sup>2</sup> shall <sup>2</sup>cooperatively<sup>2</sup> prepare and  
2 submit a written report to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of  
3 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature, identifying the  
4 findings from the study, including any findings and relevant data  
5 associated with pilot projects undertaken pursuant to subsection b.  
6 of this section, and providing recommendations for legislative,  
7 executive, and other actions that <sup>2</sup>can should<sup>2</sup> be taken to  
8 facilitate, encourage, <sup>2</sup>and<sup>2</sup> promote <sup>2</sup>, support, or require<sup>2</sup> the  
9 <sup>2</sup>increased use removal<sup>2</sup> of microplastics <sup>2</sup>removal  
10 technologies from drinking water<sup>2</sup> in the State. <sup>2</sup>At a minimum,  
11 the report shall:

12 (1) include a strategic plan for the deployment and use of  
13 microplastics removal technologies by system owners or operators  
14 in the State;

15 (2) identify the procedures and standards that will be used in  
16 soliciting and approving proposals for microplastics removal  
17 projects in the State; and

18 (3) describe the financial incentives, if any, and any other  
19 alternative means and methods, that should or will be used by the  
20 department and the board to:

21 (a) facilitate the development and deployment of efficient and  
22 effective microplastics removal technologies throughout the State,  
23 in accordance with the strategic plan developed pursuant to  
24 paragraph (1) of this subsection; and

25 (b) promote technological innovations in the area of  
26 microplastics removal.<sup>2</sup>

27 e. Following the submission of the report, pursuant to  
28 subsection d. of this section, the department <sup>2</sup>and the board<sup>2</sup>  
29 shall:

30 (1) consistent with the findings set forth in the report, <sup>2</sup>and in  
31 coordination with the Department of Health,<sup>2</sup> engage in <sup>2</sup>an  
32 ongoing, cooperative <sup>2</sup>a<sup>2</sup> public education and awareness campaign,  
33 and take other appropriate action, in order to inform system owners  
34 or operators and members of the public about:

35 (a) the threats to human health and the environment that are  
36 posed by microplastics;

37 (b) the importance of removing microplastics from drinking  
38 water <sup>2</sup>and wastewater<sup>2</sup>;

39 (c) the microplastics removal technologies that are available on  
40 the market and have been deemed to be effective in removing  
41 microplastics from water <sup>2</sup>and<sup>2</sup>;

42 <sup>2</sup>(d) the goals and primary elements of the strategic plan  
43 established pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection d. of this  
44 section; and

45 (e) <sup>2</sup>(d)<sup>2</sup> the State and federal incentives <sup>2</sup>or other financial  
46 assistance<sup>2</sup> that are available, if any, to facilitate the development,

1 deployment, and use of new or existing microplastics removal  
2 technologies in the State;

3 (2) <sup>2</sup>**authorize, and issue** establish a process to review and act  
4 upon applications for such<sup>2</sup> permits or licenses as may be necessary  
5 <sup>2</sup>**to enable,** for<sup>2</sup> the continuation of <sup>2</sup>any<sup>2</sup> pilot projects  
6 commenced pursuant to subsection b. of this section, and the  
7 commencement of new microplastics removal projects by system  
8 owners or operators in the State; <sup>2</sup>**and**

9 (3) if the study finds that consumption of microplastics via  
10 drinking water poses a health risk, work with the Drinking Water  
11 Quality Institute to conduct the further evaluations of human health  
12 effects, testing capabilities, and treatment capacity for microplastics  
13 in drinking water necessary to inform future regulatory  
14 development by the department; and<sup>2</sup>

15 <sup>2</sup>**(3)** <sup>2</sup>**(4)**<sup>2</sup> consistent with the recommendations contained in the  
16 report, and within the limits of funds appropriated to the department  
17 <sup>2</sup>**or the board for their purposes**<sup>2</sup>, establish <sup>2</sup>grant, financing,<sup>2</sup>  
18 incentive or other programs, as necessary to <sup>2</sup>support,<sup>2</sup> incentivize,  
19 promote, or facilitate the increased use of effective and efficient  
20 new and existing microplastics removal technologies by system  
21 owners or operators in the State <sup>2</sup>, with a primary focus on the  
22 financial needs of non-investor-owned public community water  
23 systems.

24 f. Recovery in rates by any system owner or operator subject to  
25 the rate-setting jurisdiction of the board of any costs associated with  
26 studying, piloting, or implementing technologies, processes, or  
27 techniques required to meet the goals of the legislation shall be  
28 subject to approval by the board<sup>2</sup> .

29  
30 <sup>2</sup>**[5.] 3.**<sup>2</sup> This act shall take effect immediately.  
31  
32  
33

34  
35 Directs DEP to take certain actions concerning identification and  
36 testing of microplastics in drinking water, and requires DEP and  
37 BPU to study and promote use of microplastics removal  
38 technologies.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 4821

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 24, 2022

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman ROBERT J. KARABINCHAK**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Assemblyman GARY S. SCHAER**

**District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman Benson and Assemblywoman Carter**

**SYNOPSIS**

Directs DEP to adopt regulations concerning identification and testing of microplastics in drinking water.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/23/2023)**

1 AN ACT concerning the identification and testing of microplastics in  
2 drinking water and supplementing P.L.1977, c.224 (C.58:12A-1  
3 et seq.).

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

7  
8 1. The Drinking Water Quality Institute established pursuant to  
9 section 10 of P.L.1983, c.443 (C.58:12A-20) shall study the issue of  
10 microplastics in drinking water and, within two years after the  
11 effective date of this act, recommend to the Department of  
12 Environmental Protection a definition of microplastics in drinking  
13 water.

14  
15 2. No later than three years after the effective date of this act,  
16 the Department of Environmental Protection shall:

17 a. adopt a standard methodology to be used in the testing of  
18 drinking water for microplastics;

19 b. adopt requirements for four years of testing and reporting the  
20 concentration of microplastics in drinking water by public water  
21 systems, including public disclosure of test results; and

22 c. accredit qualified laboratories in New Jersey to analyze  
23 microplastics.

24  
25 3. The Department of Environmental Protection may adopt  
26 rules and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure  
27 Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to implement the  
28 provisions of this act.

29  
30 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

31

32

33

#### STATEMENT

34

35 This bill requires the Drinking Water Quality Institute (DWQI)  
36 to study the issue of microplastics in drinking water. It also  
37 requires the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to  
38 adopt regulations related to the sampling and testing for the  
39 presence of microplastics in drinking water by public water  
40 systems.

41 The bill directs the DWQI to recommend a definition of  
42 microplastics in drinking water within two years after the bill's  
43 effective date. The bill also directs the DEP, within three years  
44 after the effective date, to adopt a standard methodology to be used  
45 in the testing of drinking water for microplastics, to formulate  
46 requirements for testing and reporting the concentration of  
47 microplastics in drinking water by public water systems, and to

1 accredit qualified laboratories in New Jersey to analyze  
2 microplastics.

3 Microplastics are abundant in the environment and have been  
4 detected in the ocean, wastewater, fresh water, food, air, and  
5 drinking water. Microplastics may absorb contaminants from the  
6 surrounding environment, such as harmful bacteria found in  
7 wastewater treatment plants. Microplastics also may contain  
8 chemicals left over from the manufacturing process. In addition, in  
9 a study of drinking water in the United States, 94 percent of the  
10 samples contained microplastics, including a sample collected from  
11 the United States Environmental Protection Agency headquarters.

12 In 2018, California passed a law requiring the State Water  
13 Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to adopt: (1) a  
14 definition of microplastics in drinking water; (2) a standard  
15 methodology to be used in the testing of drinking water for  
16 microplastics; and (3) requirements for four years of testing and  
17 reporting of microplastics in drinking water, including public  
18 disclosure of those results. On June 16, 2020, the State Water  
19 Board adopted a definition of “microplastics in drinking water,” and  
20 since then, the State Water Board has been working to adopt  
21 standardized methods for monitoring, extracting, analyzing, testing,  
22 and reporting microplastics in drinking water.

ASSEMBLY SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**ASSEMBLY, Nos. 4821 and 4823**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MARCH 23, 2023

The Assembly Special Committee on Infrastructure and Natural Resources reports favorably a committee substitute for Assembly Bill No. 4821 and Assembly Bill No. 4823.

This committee substitute would require the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), in consultation with the Drinking Water Quality Institute, to establish a definition of the term “microplastics,” and a standard methodology to be used by public water systems in the testing of drinking water for microplastics. The DEP would be required to establish requirements for the testing and reporting of the concentration of microplastics in drinking water for a four year period by public water systems, and the public disclosure of test results. In addition, the DEP would be required to establish criteria to accredit qualified laboratories in New Jersey to analyze microplastics.

The committee substitute also requires the DEP and the Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to commence a study to evaluate the feasibility and benefits of the use of microplastics removal technologies by system owners or operators to remove microplastics from drinking water and wastewater in the State. In conducting the study, the DEP and BPU would cooperatively engage in a stakeholder engagement process, which shall include consultation with, and the solicitation of testimony and information from: (1) experts in the operation of water supply, water treatment, or wastewater collection or treatment systems; the operation of water filtering systems or removal technologies; the proper handling or disposal of microplastics; or the study or remediation of water pollution or contaminants; (2) marine biologists, oceanographers, water quality specialists, environmental scientists, toxicologists, public health experts, and other members of appropriate scientific fields; and (3) representatives of the plastics manufacturing industry; (4) members of the public; and (5) other relevant and interested parties.

The committee substitute would also require the DEP and BPU to authorize system owners or operators in the State to engage in pilot microplastics removal projects, with associated pilot project data to be included in the study. The proposed committee substitute would

require the DEP to solicit and approve applications for, and take other appropriate action to facilitate, the implementation of pilot projects.

No later than three months after completion of the study, the BPU would be required to prepare and submit a written report to the Governor and to the Legislature, identifying the findings from the study, and providing recommendations for legislative, executive, and other actions that can be taken to facilitate, encourage, and promote the increased use of microplastics removal technologies in the State. At a minimum, the report would include a strategic plan for the deployment and use of microplastics removal technologies. Following the submission of the report, the DEP and BPU would be required to engage in an ongoing, cooperative public education and awareness campaign in order to inform system owners or operators and members of the public about the dangers posed by microplastics, the importance of removing micro plastics from drinking water and waste water, the technologies available on the market to remove microplastics from water, and the goals and primary elements of the strategic plan.

ASSEMBLY ENVIRONMENT AND SOLID WASTE  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**ASSEMBLY, Nos. 4821 and 4823**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MAY 11, 2023

The Assembly Environment and Solid Waste Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill Nos. 4821 and 4823 ACS.

This bill would require the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), in consultation with the Drinking Water Quality Institute, to establish a definition of the term “microplastics,” and a standard methodology to be used by public water systems in the testing of drinking water for microplastics. The DEP would be required to establish requirements for the testing and reporting of the concentration of microplastics in drinking water for a four year period by public water systems, and the public disclosure of test results. In addition, the DEP would be required to establish criteria to accredit qualified laboratories in New Jersey to analyze microplastics.

The bill also requires the DEP and the Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to commence a study to evaluate the feasibility and benefits of the use of microplastics removal technologies by system owners or operators to remove microplastics from drinking water and wastewater in the State. In conducting the study, the DEP and BPU would cooperatively engage in a stakeholder engagement process, which shall include consultation with, and the solicitation of testimony and information from: (1) experts in the operation of water supply, water treatment, or wastewater collection or treatment systems; the operation of water filtering systems or removal technologies; the proper handling or disposal of microplastics; or the study or remediation of water pollution or contaminants; (2) marine biologists, oceanographers, water quality specialists, environmental scientists, toxicologists, public health experts, and other members of appropriate scientific fields; and (3) representatives of the plastics manufacturing industry; (4) members of the public; and (5) other relevant and interested parties.

The bill would also require the DEP and BPU to authorize system owners or operators in the State to engage in pilot microplastics removal projects, with associated pilot project data to be included in the study. The bill would require the DEP to solicit and approve applications for, and take other appropriate action to facilitate, the implementation of pilot projects.

No later than three months after completion of the study, the BPU would be required to prepare and submit a written report to the Governor and to the Legislature, identifying the findings from the study, and providing recommendations for legislative, executive, and other actions that can be taken to facilitate, encourage, and promote the increased use of microplastics removal technologies in the State. At a minimum, the report would include a strategic plan for the deployment and use of microplastics removal technologies. Following the submission of the report, the DEP and BPU would be required to engage in an ongoing, cooperative public education and awareness campaign in order to inform system owners or operators and members of the public about the dangers posed by microplastics, the importance of removing microplastics from drinking water and waste water, the technologies available on the market to remove microplastics from water, and the goals and primary elements of the strategic plan.

ASSEMBLY ENVIRONMENT AND SOLID WASTE  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**ASSEMBLY, Nos. 4821 and 4823**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MAY 11, 2023

The Assembly Environment and Solid Waste Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill Nos. 4821 and 4823 ACS.

This bill would require the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), in consultation with the Drinking Water Quality Institute, to establish a definition of the term “microplastics,” and a standard methodology to be used by public water systems in the testing of drinking water for microplastics. The DEP would be required to establish requirements for the testing and reporting of the concentration of microplastics in drinking water for a four year period by public water systems, and the public disclosure of test results. In addition, the DEP would be required to establish criteria to accredit qualified laboratories in New Jersey to analyze microplastics.

The bill also requires the DEP and the Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to commence a study to evaluate the feasibility and benefits of the use of microplastics removal technologies by system owners or operators to remove microplastics from drinking water and wastewater in the State. In conducting the study, the DEP and BPU would cooperatively engage in a stakeholder engagement process, which shall include consultation with, and the solicitation of testimony and information from: (1) experts in the operation of water supply, water treatment, or wastewater collection or treatment systems; the operation of water filtering systems or removal technologies; the proper handling or disposal of microplastics; or the study or remediation of water pollution or contaminants; (2) marine biologists, oceanographers, water quality specialists, environmental scientists, toxicologists, public health experts, and other members of appropriate scientific fields; and (3) representatives of the plastics manufacturing industry; (4) members of the public; and (5) other relevant and interested parties.

The bill would also require the DEP and BPU to authorize system owners or operators in the State to engage in pilot microplastics removal projects, with associated pilot project data to be included in the study. The bill would require the DEP to solicit and approve applications for, and take other appropriate action to facilitate, the implementation of pilot projects.

No later than three months after completion of the study, the BPU would be required to prepare and submit a written report to the Governor and to the Legislature, identifying the findings from the study, and providing recommendations for legislative, executive, and other actions that can be taken to facilitate, encourage, and promote the increased use of microplastics removal technologies in the State. At a minimum, the report would include a strategic plan for the deployment and use of microplastics removal technologies. Following the submission of the report, the DEP and BPU would be required to engage in an ongoing, cooperative public education and awareness campaign in order to inform system owners or operators and members of the public about the dangers posed by microplastics, the importance of removing microplastics from drinking water and waste water, the technologies available on the market to remove microplastics from water, and the goals and primary elements of the strategic plan.

**SENATE, No. 3283**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**220th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 31, 2022

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Senator ANDREW ZWICKER**

**District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Directs DEP to adopt regulations concerning identification and testing of microplastics in drinking water.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/15/2022)**

1 AN ACT concerning the identification and testing of microplastics in  
2 drinking water and supplementing P.L.1977, c.224 (C.58:12A-1  
3 et seq.).

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

7  
8 1. The Drinking Water Quality Institute established pursuant to  
9 section 10 of P.L.1983, c.443 (C.58:12A-20) shall study the issue of  
10 microplastics in drinking water and, within two years after the  
11 effective date of this act, recommend to the Department of  
12 Environmental Protection a definition of microplastics in drinking  
13 water.

14  
15 2. No later than three years after the effective date of this act,  
16 the Department of Environmental Protection shall:

17 a. adopt a standard methodology to be used in the testing of  
18 drinking water for microplastics;

19 b. adopt requirements for four years of testing and reporting the  
20 concentration of microplastics in drinking water by public water  
21 systems, including public disclosure of test results; and

22 c. accredit qualified laboratories in New Jersey to analyze  
23 microplastics.

24  
25 3. The Department of Environmental Protection may adopt  
26 rules and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure  
27 Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to implement the  
28 provisions of this act.

29  
30 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

31

32

33

#### STATEMENT

34

35 This bill requires the Drinking Water Quality Institute (DWQI)  
36 to study the issue of microplastics in drinking water. It also  
37 requires the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to  
38 adopt regulations related to the sampling and testing for the  
39 presence of microplastics in drinking water by public water  
40 systems.

41 The bill directs the DWQI to recommend a definition of  
42 microplastics in drinking water within two years after the bill's  
43 effective date. The bill also directs the DEP, within three years  
44 after the effective date, to adopt a standard methodology to be used  
45 in the testing of drinking water for microplastics, to formulate  
46 requirements for testing and reporting the concentration of  
47 microplastics in drinking water by public water systems, and to

1 accredit qualified laboratories in New Jersey to analyze  
2 microplastics.

3 Microplastics are abundant in the environment and have been  
4 detected in the ocean, wastewater, fresh water, food, air, and  
5 drinking water. Microplastics may absorb contaminants from the  
6 surrounding environment, such as harmful bacteria found in  
7 wastewater treatment plants. Microplastics also may contain  
8 chemicals left over from the manufacturing process. In addition, in  
9 a study of drinking water in the United States, 94 percent of the  
10 samples contained microplastics, including a sample collected from  
11 the United States Environmental Protection Agency headquarters.

12 In 2018, California passed a law requiring the State Water  
13 Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to adopt: (1) a  
14 definition of microplastics in drinking water; (2) a standard  
15 methodology to be used in the testing of drinking water for  
16 microplastics; and (3) requirements for four years of testing and  
17 reporting of microplastics in drinking water, including public  
18 disclosure of those results. On June 16, 2020, the State Water  
19 Board adopted a definition of “microplastics in drinking water,” and  
20 since then, the State Water Board has been working to adopt  
21 standardized methods for monitoring, extracting, analyzing, testing,  
22 and reporting microplastics in drinking water.

SENATE ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 3283**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MARCH 9, 2023

The Senate Environment and Energy Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 3283.

This bill requires the Drinking Water Quality Institute (DWQI) to study the issue of microplastics in drinking water. It also requires the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to adopt regulations related to the sampling and testing for the presence of microplastics in drinking water by public water systems.

The bill directs the DWQI to recommend a definition of microplastics in drinking water within two years after the bill's effective date. The bill also directs the DEP, within three years after the effective date, to adopt a standard methodology to be used in the testing of drinking water for microplastics, to formulate requirements for testing and reporting the concentration of microplastics in drinking water by public water systems, and to accredit qualified laboratories in New Jersey to analyze microplastics.

**STATEMENT TO**  
**SENATE, No. 3283**

with Senate Floor Amendments  
(Proposed by Senator GREENSTEIN)

ADOPTED: DECEMBER 21, 2023

These floor amendments would:

(1) add definitions of “board,” “department,” “public water system”, and “system owner and operator” to the bill;

(2) require the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), in consultation with the Drinking Water Quality Institute, to establish a definition of the term “microplastics,” and a standard methodology to be used by public water systems in the testing of drinking water for microplastics;

(3) clarify language regarding requirements for public water systems to test and report concentrations of microplastics in drinking water for four years and adopt criteria to accredit laboratories in New Jersey to analyze microplastics;

(4) add a new section to the bill to require the DEP and the Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to commence a study to evaluate the feasibility and benefits of the use of microplastics removal technologies by system owners or operators to remove microplastics from drinking water and wastewater in the State;

(5) require the DEP and BPU to authorize system owners or operators in the State to engage in pilot microplastics removal projects, with associated pilot project data to be included in the study;

(6) require the DEP and BPU to engage in a public education and awareness campaign on the threats posed by microplastics, the importance of removing microplastics from drinking water and wastewater, and the technologies available for that purpose; and

(7) establish incentive programs to increase the use of microplastic removal technologies by public water systems.

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
**FOR ASSEMBLY BILL NOS. 4821 AND 4823**  
(First Reprint)

To the General Assembly:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill Nos. 4821 and 4823 (First Reprint) with my recommendations for reconsideration.

This bill would require the Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") and the Drinking Water Quality Institute ("DWQI") to establish a definition of "microplastics" and testing methodologies for microplastics in drinking water. The bill would further require the DEP, within three years, to adopt rules establishing microplastics testing and reporting requirements for drinking water systems and institute criteria for laboratory certification.

In addition, the bill would require the DEP and the Board of Public Utilities ("BPU") to complete a study, within two years, of the feasibility and benefits of using microplastics removal technologies in drinking water and wastewater systems, and to submit a report to the Governor and Legislature with the results of the study. The study would include pilot microplastics removal projects and stakeholder engagement; and the report would include recommendations for legislative and executive actions and the development of a strategic plan to deploy, approve, and incentivize microplastics removal technologies.

Following the submission of the report, the DEP and the BPU would be required to undertake a public education campaign to inform water system owners and the public about the importance of microplastics removal, available technologies, the goals and primary elements of the strategic plan, and available incentives. The agencies would also be required to issue permits for removal

projects and, within the limits of appropriated funding, to establish incentive programs to promote the use of removal technologies.

I commend the sponsors of Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill Nos. 4821 and 4823 (First Reprint) for their attention to the concerns associated with the ever-increasing prevalence of microplastics in drinking water, wastewater, and the environment in general; their efforts to take a multifaceted approach to the problem; and their recognition of the need for significant further study of this emerging issue. However, I have concerns with several aspects of the bill as passed.

In particular, I am concerned that this bill requires the development of methodologies for testing in advance of the study and requires DEP to promulgate regulations requiring mandatory testing and reporting immediately after the required study is completed. Rather, in an area of emerging science such as this, the results of an initial study, and particularly the findings with respect to impacts on human health, are necessary to inform the next steps that DEP and DWQI will take. For a contaminant found to pose a health risk, those next steps typically include more detailed studies of precise human health effects, actual testing capability, and treatment capacity, all of which are necessary in order for DEP to take steps to regulate a contaminant. This further evaluation may, but does not always need to, include collection of data on local occurrence of the contaminant. I am therefore recommending that, instead of requiring DEP to establish testing methodologies and sampling requirements, the bill be amended to require DEP to develop a definition of microplastics in drinking water as part of the study and, following submission of the report, to require DEP to work with DWQI to undertake the further studies necessary to inform future regulatory development

if the study shows that microplastics in drinking water pose a health risk.

I am further concerned that the requirement for the State to develop a plan to provide financial support and incentives for the deployment of microplastics removal technologies gets ahead of the very study the bill requires, presupposing that such technologies will be found to be feasible and cost-effective; that the public health and environmental risks of microplastics will justify the State financing the deployment of these technologies; and that a State plan coupled with incentives will be the best way to address potential health and environmental risks. As a result, I am recommending that the final report not be required to include a strategic deployment plan, procedures for approving proposals, or financial incentives to promote adoption. The report will still be required to provide recommendations on all actions that should be taken to facilitate, encourage, promote, support, or require removal of microplastics from drinking water; and DEP will still be required to evaluate the benefits of different technologies and the feasibility and desirability of establishing incentive or other financial support programs. As such, the final report will necessarily include recommendations on these issues that the study shows to be appropriate.

Additionally, in light of the significant extent of the issues to be studied and the limited available science to date on many of these issues, I am recommending that the study be narrowed to focus on microplastics in drinking water to provide a more manageable and cohesive scope, and that DEP be given additional time to complete the study. I am, however, also recommending that DEP evaluate, as part of the study, important related questions regarding the entry of microplastics into our water resources and their proper disposal once removed. DEP will also be required to assess a broader range of options for providing support to water

systems with particular attention to smaller local utilities and authorities, which may face particular financial barriers when it comes to implementing new technologies.

With respect to implementation of the study recommendations, I am similarly recommending that, if DEP develops grant, financing, or incentive programs based on the recommendations of the study report, such programs have a primary focus on smaller municipal and local systems.

Finally, I am recommending other minor changes to provide greater clarity and administrability, including removing BPU from the study because the study's scope falls squarely within the DEP's expertise as the agency responsible for ensuring water quality and evaluating environmental contaminants; requiring DEP to coordinate with the Department of Health with respect to the public education and awareness campaign; and specifying that the recovery in rates by any public utility regulated by BPU of costs associated with any pilot or permanent projects is subject to BPU approval.

Therefore, I herewith return Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill Nos. 4821 and 4823 (First Reprint) and recommend that it be amended as follows:

- Page 2, Section 1, Line 12: After "Protection." insert as new line ""Non-investor-owned public community water system" means a public community water system or the owner of a public community water system, as that term is defined by section 3 of P.L.1977, c.224 (C.58:12A-3), that is not investor-owned."
- Page 2, Section 1, Line 17: Delete "or a wastewater system"
- Page 2, Sections 2-3, Lines 19-39: Delete in their entirety
- Page 2, Section 4, Line 41: Delete "4" and insert "2"
- Page 2, Section 4, Lines 42-43: Delete "and the Board of Public Utilities" and insert ", in consultation with the Plastics Advisory Council established pursuant to section 7 of P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.132) where appropriate,"

Page 2, Section 4, Line 44: After "evaluate the" insert "current"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 2: Delete "and wastewater"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 3: Delete "two" and insert "three"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 4: After "include" insert "the development of a definition of a microplastics in drinking water and"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 8: After "chain;" insert as new line "(2) the origin and migration of microplastics in the State's waters, and methods for avoiding the accumulation of microplastics in drinking water and other water resources;"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 9: Delete "2" and insert "3"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 12: Delete "3" and insert "4"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 14: Delete "and wastewater,"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 15: Delete "4" and insert "5"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 18: Delete "and wastewater,"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 20: Delete "5" and insert "6"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 22: After "countries;" insert as new line "(7) appropriate methods for disposal of microplastics that have been removed from drinking water;"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 23: Delete "6" and insert "8"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 23: After "establishing a" insert "a grant or financing program or"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 28: After "State" insert ", with particular attention to the financial needs of non-investor-owned public community water systems"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 29: Delete "7" and insert "9"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 30: Delete ", by the board and"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 30: After "department" delete ","

Page 3, Section 4, Lines 30-31: Delete "soliciting and approving" and insert "evaluating"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 33: Delete "and board shall" and insert "may, if appropriate,"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 37: Delete "shall" and insert "may"

Page 3, Section 4, Line 47: After "supply" delete "," and insert "or"

Page 3, Section 4, Lines 47-48: Delete ", or wastewater collection or treatment systems"

Page 4, Section 4, Line 4: Delete "marine biologists, oceanographers,"

Page 4, Section 4, Lines 11-12: Delete "and the President of the board"

Page 4, Section 4, Line 12: Delete "cooperatively"

Page 4, Section 4, Line 18: Delete "can" and insert "should"

Page 4, Section 4, Line 18: Delete "and"

Page 4, Section 4, Line 18: After "promote" insert ", support, or require"

Page 4, Section 4, Line 19: Delete "increased use" and insert "removal"

Page 4, Section 4, Line 19: Delete "removal technologies" and insert "from drinking water"

Page 4, Section 4, Line 19: Delete "At a"

Page 4, Section 4, Lines 20-35: Delete in their entirety

Page 4, Section 4, Line 37: Delete "and the board"

Page 4, Section 4, Line 38: After "report," insert "and in coordination with the Department of Health,"

Page 4, Section 4, Lines 38-39: Delete "an ongoing, cooperative" and insert "a"

Page 4, Section 4, Line 45: Delete "and wastewater"

Page 4, Section 4, Line 48: After "water;" insert "and"

Page 5, Section 4, Lines 1-2: Delete in their entirety

Page 5, Section 4, Line 3: Delete "e" and insert "d"

Page 5, Section 4, Line 3: After "incentives" insert "or other financial assistance"

Page 5, Section 4, Line 6: Delete "authorize, and issue" and insert "establish a process to review and act upon applications for such"

Page 5, Section 4, Lines 6-7: Delete "to enable," and insert "for"

Page 5, Section 4, Line 7: After "of" insert "any"

Page 5, Section 4, Line 10: Delete "and" and insert as new line "(3) if the study finds that consumption of microplastics via drinking water poses a health risk, work with the Drinking Water Quality Institute to conduct the further evaluations of human health effects, testing capabilities, and treatment

capacity for microplastics in drinking water necessary to inform future regulatory development by the department; and"

Page 5, Section 4, Line 11:

Delete "3" and insert "4"

Page 5, Section 4, Lines 12-13:

Delete "or the board for their purposes"

Page 5, Section 4, Line 13:

After "establish" insert "grant, financing,"

Page 5, Section 4, Line 14:

After "to" insert "support,"

Page 5, Section 4, Line 16:

After "State" insert ", with a primary focus on the financial needs of non-investor-owned public community water systems.

f. Recovery in rates by any system owner or operator subject to the rate-setting jurisdiction of the board of any costs associated with studying, piloting, or implementing technologies, processes, or techniques required to meet the goals of the legislation shall be subject to approval by the board"

[seal]

Respectfully,

/s/ Philip D. Murphy

Governor

Attest:

/s/ Parimal Garg

Chief Counsel to the Governor

# Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

01/16/2024

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

**SCS for S-281/ACS for A-3791 (Greenstein, Turner/Sumter, Reynolds-Jackson) – w/STATEMENT** - Concerns automatic fire sprinkler systems within newly constructed townhouses

[Copy of Statement](#)

**S-539wGR/A-2140 (Ruiz, Pou/Reynolds-Jackson, Wimberly, Mosquera)** - Permits online purchase of eligible foods using WIC funds and use of WIC funds for grocery delivery charges

**S-659/A-2014 (Oroho, Greenstein/Conaway, Wirths, Umba)** - “Manufacturing in Higher Education Act”; requires various State entities to promote manufacturing career pathways for students and provides assistance to manufacturing industry

**S-1110/A-3936 (Polistina, Singleton/Guardian, Swift, McClellan)** - Authorizes CRDA to finance transportation projects between Atlantic City Airport and Atlantic City Tourism District

**S-1662/A-3526 (Ruiz, Codey/Lampitt, Benson, Saucikie)** - Requires NJ Youth Suicide Prevention Advisory Council to prepare report regarding suicide prevention instruction in public schools

**S-1680wGR/A-2257 (Pou, Ruiz/Murphy, Quijano, Wimberly)** - Designates each community college in State as provider of allowable services under SNAP employment and training program

**S-2076/ACS for A-3319 (Zwicker, Greenstein/McKnight, Lampitt)** - Establishes “Twelfth Grade Postsecondary Transition Year Pilot Program” in Department of Education

**S-2535wGR/A-4048 (Polistina, Pou/Benson, McKnight, Reynolds-Jackson, Carter)** - Requires health benefits coverage of hearing aids and cochlear implants

**S-2841/A-4292 (Scutari, Bramnick/Carter)** - Raises minimum amount of liability coverage for commercial motor vehicles and autocabs

**SCS for S-3080/ACS for-398 (Ruiz, Burgess/Caputo, Giblin, Tucker)** - Establishes position of Youth Disconnection Prevention and Recovery Ombudsperson; establishes “School Disconnection Prevention Task Force”; appropriates \$200,000

**S-3102/A-4715 (Smith, Singleton/Stanley, Benson)** - Establishes uptime requirement for electric vehicle charging station incentive programs

**S-3176/A-4760 (Greenstein, Smith/Swain, Haider, Tully)** - Requires DEP and Drinking Water Quality Institute to perform study concerning regulation and treatment of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances

**SCS for S-3632 and 3649w/GR/ACS for A-1948 (Johnson, Cryan/Haider, Conaway, Quijano)** - Requires labeling of non-flushable disposable wipes

**S-3758/A-5343 (Cryan/Karabinchak)** - Changes deadline for unaffiliated mail-in voters to declare their political party before primary election

**S-3837/A-5438 (Pou, Cruz-Perez/Pintor Marin, Wimberly)** - Clarifies process for administrative appropriations to UEZs

**S-3897/A-5578 (Ruiz, Sarlo/Jasey, Carter, Reynolds-Jackson)** - Authorizes Higher Education Student Assistance Authority to award annual summer tuition aid grants

**S-4040/A-5881 (Polistina, Lagana/Tully, Guardian, Swift)** - Concerns jurisdiction and operations of regional municipal courts

**S-4084/A-5851 (Ruiz, Cruz-Perez/Moriarty, Calabrese, Moen)** - Concerns temporary registration certificates and license plates

**S-4130/A-5849 (Codey/Jasey, Tucker)** - Special legislation to change name of “Township of South Orange Village” to “South Orange Village”; changes titles of certain municipal officials; permits nonpartisan municipal elections to be moved to November; permits stipend for governing body members

**S-4206/A-5856 (Sarlo/Calabrese)** - Changes number of signatures required on primary election petition to nominate certain municipal candidates in certain municipalities

**S-4209/A-5879 (Sarlo/Pintor Marin)** - Eliminates vote on school budgets for Type II school districts in April elections, except for separate proposals to spend above cap

**S-4268/A-5911 (Scutari/Danielsen)** - Permits certain special State officers to represent cannabis businesses

**A-203/S-2884 (Rooney, Benson, Caputo/A.M. Bucco)** - Authorizes creation of special license plates commemorating horse as State animal

**A-1100/S-995 (Calabrese, Mukherji, McKnight/Ruiz, Stack)** - Requires entities to remove abandoned lines and mark information on certain lines

**A-1107/S-770 (Chaparro, Murphy, Mukherji/Pou, Beach)** - Directs Chief Technology Officer to conduct study on impacts of redacting handwritten signatures published on State websites; allows for protocols for such redactions to be established by rules and regulations

**ACS for A-1255/SS for S-1794 (Stanley, Conaway, Benson/Gopal, Singer)** - Updates requirements and standards for authorization and prior authorization of health care services

**A-1727/S-3300 (Speight, Reynolds-Jackson, Verrelli/Stanfield, Ruiz)** - Requires Attorney General to perform outreach and provide services to victims of human trafficking under certain circumstances

**A-1729/S-3550 (Speight, Reynolds-Jackson, McKnight/Greenstein, Ruiz)** - Requires AG to address human trafficking in underserved communities

**A-1755/S-2505 (McKeon, Calabrese, Conaway/Smith, Greenstein)** - Requires installation of operational automatic rain sensor or smart sprinkler as condition of sale of certain real properties, and on certain commercial, retail, and industrial properties and common interest communities within specified timeframes

**A-2146wGR/S-855 (Reynolds-Jackson, Wimberly, Sumter/Singleton, Beach)** - Creates State business assistance program to establish contracting agency procurement goals for socially and economically disadvantaged business enterprises

**A-2581/S-2503 (Lampitt, Park/Beach)** - Provides that certain cosmetology and hairstyling courses may be taught using distance learning technology

**A-3142/S-1564 (Moen, Moriarty, Benson/Singleton, Corrado)** - Authorizes grants to purchase and rehabilitate abandoned homes for homeless veterans

**A-3211/S-2302 (Speight, Haider, Swain/Gopal, Ruiz)** - Establishes “New Jersey Feminine Hygiene Products for the Homeless Act”

**A-3980/S-2706 (Speight, McKnight, Atkins/Zwicker, Turner)** - Grants child placed in resource family care and resource family parents the right to be notified when case manager or supervisor is assigned to child; grants child in resource family care right to be notified of certain property and benefits

**A-4033wGR/S-2657 (Coughlin, Wimberly/Sarlo, Ruiz)** - Extends deadline for completion of school district’s annual audit

**A-4049/S-3495 (McKnight, Reynolds-Jackson, Benson/Vitale, Johnson)** - Provides for presumptive eligibility for home and community-based services and services provided through program of all-inclusive care for the elderly under Medicaid

**A-4105/S-4202 (Lopez, Jimenez, Quijano/Vitale, Turner)** - Establishes Interagency Council on Homelessness

**A-4183/S-4264 (Haider/Singleton)** - Concerns local unit filing requirement for certain shared services agreements

**A-4212/S-2762 (Pintor Marin, Reynolds-Jackson, Verrelli/Ruiz, Cunningham)** - Establishes Center for Career Relevant Education and Talent Evaluation of New Jersey at Thomas Edison State University

**A-4337/S-4156 (Conaway, Atkins, Rooney/Singleton, Pou)** - Requires Department of Health to provide information to Statewide 2-1-1 telephone system regarding the location of safe disposal sites for hypodermic syringes and needles and prescription drugs

**ACS for A-4496/SCS for S-3247 (Coughlin, Lampitt, Karabinchak, Wimberly/Zwicker, Greenstein)** - Revises various provisions of law governing construction of school facilities projects and operations of New Jersey Schools Development Authority; establishes "Charter School and Renaissance School Project Facilities Loan Program" in EDA

**A-4522/S-3234 (Moen, McKnight, Quijano/Singer, Singleton)** - Requires certain disclosures by sellers of single-family homes with solar panels installed

**A-4691/S-1530 (Swain, DeAngelo, Speight/Greenstein, Zwicker)** - Requires hazard mitigation plans to include climate change-related threat assessments and hazard prevention and mitigation strategies

**A-4723/S-2740 (McKeon, Moriarty, Rooney/Codey, Scutari)** - Requires motor vehicle dealer to offer to delete personal information in motor vehicles in certain situations

**A-4791/S-3184 (Kennedy, Haider, McKeon/Diegnan, Sarlo)** - Establishes "Resiliency and Environmental System Investment Charge Program"

**ACS for A-4794/S-3224 (Benson, Mukherji/Singleton, Turner)** - Requires request for proposal to establish demonstration projects to develop electric vehicle charging depots serviced by distributed energy resource charging centers for certain electric vehicle use

**A-4814/S-1023 (Moen, Wimberly/Singleton, Gopal)** - Removes expected family contribution from calculation of financial need under circumstances in which public institutions of higher education may reduce student's institutional financial aid

**ACS for A-4821 and 4823wGR/S-3283 (Karabinchak, Conaway, Schaer/Greenstein, Zwicker)** - Directs DEP to take certain actions concerning identification and testing of microplastics in drinking water, and requires DEP and BPU to study and promote use of microplastics removal technologies

**A-4955/S-3531 (S. Kean, Thomson/Singer, Gopal)** - Designates portion of State Highway Route 71 as "John Tarantino Highway"

**A-5094/S-3476 (Spearman/Beach, Greenstein)** - Concerns licensing of security officer companies

**A-5227/S-3662 (Danielsen, Space/Smith, Oroho)** - Expands eligibility for "fishing buddy license" fee

**A-5285/SCS for S-3708 (Greenwald, Haider, Lopez/Greenstein, A.M. Bucco)** - Requires copies of certain law enforcement records to be provided to victims of domestic violence upon request

**A-5293/S-3746 (Greenwald, McKnight, Rooney/Gopal, Ruiz)** - Concerns New Jersey Civic Information Consortium

**A-5311/S-3061 (Verrelli, McKnight, Matsikoudis/Stanfield, Turner)** - Enters New Jersey into Counseling Compact

**A-5391/S-3765 (DeAngelo/Diegnan, Corrado)** - Imposes conditions on drivers approaching disabled vehicles

**A-5412/S-3850 (Greenwald, Swain, Jasey/Gopal, Singer)** - Establishes nonpublic school transportation program to provide funding to consortiums of nonpublic schools that will assume responsibility for mandated nonpublic school busing

**A-5416wGR/S-3883 (Wimberly, Giblin, Haider/Greenstein, Turner)** - Requires State Board of Education to authorize alternate route to expedite teacher certification of persons employed as paraprofessionals in school districts

**A-5442/S-3793 (Karabinchak, Conaway, McKeon/Smith, Greenstein)** - Directs BPU to conduct study to determine feasibility, marketability, and costs of implementing large-scale geothermal heat pump systems in State

**A-5462/S-3867 (Coughlin, McKnight, Speight/Vitale, Turner)** - Revises law establishing Office of Food Security Advocate, and establishes certain conditions for use of monies appropriated to emergency food organizations

**ACS for A-5495/SCS for S-3846 (Danielsen/Scutari, A.M. Bucco)** - Clarifies types of firearms allowed to be carried or transported while hunting

**A-5516/S-4047 (Reynolds-Jackson, Verrelli, Conaway/Burgess, Turner)** - Requires certain health care professionals to undergo bias training

**A-5565/S-3971 (S. Kean, Thomson/Gopal)** - Provides that 10-year term does not apply to lease of certain municipal properties unless they are waterfront properties or related to waterfront concessions

**A-5567/S-3807 (Torrissi, Calabrese/A.M. Bucco, Sarlo)** - Extends period of usefulness of fire engines for bonding purposes from 10 to 20 years; eliminates exclusion of passenger cars and station wagons

**A-5582/S-3781 (Swain, Simonsen/Lagana, Cryan)** - Establishes grant program for NJ YouthBuild programs through DOLWD; makes appropriation

**A-5610wGR/S-3954 (Greenwald, Spearman, Chaparro/Beach, A.M. Bucco)** - Revises penalties for possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages by underage persons

**A-5748/S-4166 (Spearman, Moen, Moriarty/Cruz-Perez, Madden)** - Amends definition of "participating county" under County Option Hospital Fee Program

**A-5755/S-4183 (Carter, Sumter, Wimberly, Quijano/Scutari, Singleton)** - Enhances notice requirements and occupancy restrictions for hotels and multiple dwellings following determination of potentially hazardous condition

**A-5799/S-1472 (Moen, Moriarty/Beach, Stack)** - Authorizes DOT to establish and administer toll collection and enforcement system on behalf of NJ toll authorities and to enter into reciprocal agreements for enforcement of toll violations with toll authorities from other states

**A-5806/S-4165 (Moriarty, Sauickie/Greenstein, Oroho)** - Appropriates \$48 million from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues to DEP for State acquisition of lands for recreation and conservation purposes, including Blue Acres projects, and Green Acres Program administrative costs

**A-5807/S-4138 (Freiman/Johnson, Schepisi)** - Appropriates \$58 million from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues for recreation and conservation purposes to DEP for State capital and park development projects

**A-5808/S-4135 (Park, Freiman, Lopez/Beach, Turner)** - Appropriates \$15,564,293 from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues to NJ Historic Trust for grants for certain historic preservation projects and associated administrative expenses

**A-5809/S-4097 (Swain, Lopez, Sauickie/Zwicker, Gopal)** - Amends lists of projects eligible to receive loans for environmental infrastructure projects from NJ Infrastructure Bank for FY 2024

**A-5810/S-4098 (Sampson, Sauickie, Lopez/Greenstein, Stanfield)** - Amends lists of environmental infrastructure projects approved for long-term funding by DEP under FY 2024 environmental infrastructure funding program

**A-5828/S-4201 (Lopez/Vitale)** - Authorizes State Treasurer to sell as surplus certain real property and improvements in Township of Woodbridge in Middlesex County

**A-5835/S-4134 (Greenwald, Lampitt/Beach, Turner)** - Authorizes regional authority to develop and operate regional rehabilitation and reentry center

**A-5836/S-4212 (DeAngelo, Sumter, Wimberly/Gopal, Greenstein)** - Makes supplemental appropriation of \$650,000 to New Jersey Division of State Police for trooper recruitment and retention

**A-5910/S-4266 (Egan/Codey)** - Increases annual salary of certain public employees and officers

**AJR-200/SJR-138 (Park, Freiman, Calabrese/Lagana)** - Designates November 22 of each year as Kimchi Day

Governor Murphy pocket vetoed the following bills:

**S-2989/A-1739 (Pou, Singer/McKeon, Quijano, Flynn)** - Makes certain for-profit debt adjusters eligible for licensing to conduct business in State

**S-3172/A-4689 (Gopal, Turner/Lampitt, Matsikoudis, McKnight)** - Establishes teacher certification route for candidates with Montessori teaching credentials

- S-3287/ACS for A-4852 and 1170 (Turner/Reynolds-Jackson, Jasey, Dunn, Wimberly, Calabrese, Spearman, Verrilli)** - Requires institutions of higher education to maintain supply and develop policy governing use of naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray for opioid overdose emergencies
- A-1476/S-930 (Benson, Dancer/Holzapfel, Diegnan)** - Exempts certain motor vehicles that are owned by certain nutrition programs and certain nonprofit organizations that offer social services from motor vehicle registration fees
- A-3642/S-665 (Wirths, Murphy, Benson, Oroho/Greenstein)** - Requires MVC to place designation on motor vehicle's registration information indicating registrant is deaf
- A-3945/S-1660 (Quijano, Reynolds-Jackson, Carter/Ruiz, Singleton)** - Establishes "Male Teachers of Color Mentorship Pilot Program"; appropriates \$95,000
- A-4177/S-2478 (Mosquera, Swain, McKnight, Tucker, Dunn/Ruiz, Vitale)** - Extends duration of law requiring certain provider subsidy payments for child care services be based on enrollment
- A-4396/S-2927 (Lampitt, Jasey, Caputo/Codey)** - Establishes timelines for review and approval by Commissioner of Education of annual certified audits submitted by approved private schools for students with disabilities
- A-4621/S-3156 (Mosquera, Greenwald, Swain/Madden)** - Requires issuance of report on certain information and data on processing of applications for professional and occupational licenses and mandates review of training and call intake in Division of Consumer Affairs.
- A-4740/S-2970 (Mukherji, DeAngelo, McKnight/Cruz-Perez, Turner)** - Provides employee access to employee's employment records on file with DOLWD
- A-5294/S-1825 (Greenwald, Swain, Rooney/Steinhardt, Sarlo, Doherty)** - Exempts sales of investment metal bullion and investment coins from sales and use tax
- A-5893/S-4228 (Karabinchak, Calabrese, Sauckie/Gopal, Sarlo)** - Extends annual horse racing purse subsidies through State fiscal year 2029