

54:3-2

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 54:3-2

(County tax board members-educational course work-extend time for completion)

LAWS OF: 1984

CHAPTER: 188

Bill No: S1257

Sponsor(s): Russo

Date Introduced: February 23, 1984

Committee: Assembly: /////

Senate: County and Municipal Government

Amended during passage: No

Date of Passage: Assembly: Oct. 11, 1984

Senate: July 30, 1984

Date of Approval: November 15, 1984

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes

Committee statement: Assembly No

Senate Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on Signing: ~~No~~ Yes

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

SENATE, No. 1257

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 23, 1984

By Senator RUSSO

Referred to Committee on County and Municipal Government

AN ACT concerning county boards of taxation and amending
R. S. 54:3-2.

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

1 1. R. S. 54:3-2 is amended to read as follows:

2 Each board shall, as heretofore, be known as the
3 county board of taxation, and be composed of three members,
4 except as hereinafter provided, to be appointed by the Governor
5 by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. Each member
6 shall be a resident and citizen of the county in and for which
7 he is appointed. Members shall be chosen because of their special
8 qualifications, knowledge and experience in matters concerning
9 the valuation and taxation of property, particularly of real prop-
10 erty. At no time shall more than two of the members belong
11 to the same political party. In counties of the first class there
12 shall be five members of whom no more than three shall belong
13 to the same political party. Each member shall, within **[18]**
14 **24** months of appointment, unless the member shall have served
15 as a member of the county board of taxation continuously for at
16 least 10 years prior to the effective date of **[this amendatory act]**
17 *P. L. 1981, c. 516*, was reappointed to a five-year term prior to that
18 date, and is currently serving that term, furnish proof that he has
19 received certificates indicating satisfactory completion of training
20 courses designated in section 4 of P. L. 1967, c. 44 (C. 54:1-35.28)
21 or that he possesses an assessor's certificate issued pursuant to
22 P. L. 1967, c. 44, as supplemented. Each member serving on the

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 printed in italics *thus* is new matter.

23 effective date of P. L. 1979, c. 499, unless the member shall have
24 served as a member continuously for at least 10 years prior to the
25 effective date of [this amendatory act], P. L. 1981, c. 516, was
26 reappointed to a five-year term prior to that date, and is currently
27 serving that term, shall furnish such proof within 30 months of
28 such effective date, if 30 months or more of his term are remaining
29 thereafter.

30 If any member so required does not furnish such proof within
31 said [18] 24-month period, or 30-month period for any member
32 serving on the effective date of P. L. 1979, c. 499, the county tax
33 administrator shall immediately notify the president of the county
34 board of taxation and the Director of the Division of Taxation.
35 The director shall upon the receipt of such notification declare the
36 position to be vacant, and shall notify the Governor of the existence
37 of such vacancy. The Governor shall thereupon appoint, with the
38 advice and consent of the Senate, a different citizen and resident
39 of the relative county to fill such position for the unexpired term.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill will extend from 18 months to 24 months the time period in which county tax board members must complete course work designated in section 4 of P. L. 1967, c. 44 (C. 54:1-35.28). In certain instances, it has proven difficult for the county tax board members to complete the required three courses in 18 months. For example, a person appointed in the spring will not be able to take the first course until the fall semester, the second course until the spring semester and the third course until the next semester. During the third semester the 18 months will elapse before the third course can be completed, despite the appointee's best efforts. Currently the only solution to this problem is to double up on courses in one semester. However, this would require four nights of classes and then places an undue burden on the appointee. Since the revision of the law on county boards of taxation by P. L. 1979, c. 499 which was effective early in 1980, legislation has been enacted twice to extend the 18 month deadline in limited circumstances to rescue several board members unable to meet the statutory deadline. Those two laws are P. L. 1982, c. 136 and P. L. 1983, c. 310. By providing county tax board members with an additional six months in which to complete the courses, this problem will be alleviated.

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51257(1984)

SENATE COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1257

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: APRIL 19, 1984

Senate Bill No. 1257 amends R. S. 54:3-2 to extend, from 18 months to 24 months, the time period in which an appointee to a county board of taxation must furnish proof that he has either (a) received certificates indicating satisfactory completion of the training courses designated in section 4 of P. L. 1967, c. 44 (C. 54:1-35.28) or (b) that he possesses an assessor's certificate issued pursuant to P. L. 1967, c. 44.

It is the committee's understanding that the current 18 month time frame poses problems for certain appointees who wish to fulfill their qualification requirements by completing the designated training courses. The training courses are sequential in nature and are offered accordingly. As a result, an individual who is appointed to a county board of taxation may, depending upon the date of his appointment, be unable to begin taking the courses immediately and, therefore, be unable to complete the course work within the 18 month time period.

Recipients who do not return to teaching in New Jersey would have to repay the loan in the same manner as other student loans are repaid.

The Governor also signed the following bills:

S-237, sponsored by State Senator Edward T. O'Connor, Jr., D-Hudson, which permits an attorney of record in an arbitration proceeding to issue a subpoena. The bill is designed to expedite the subpoena process in both private arbitration proceedings and those conducted through the New Jersey State Board of Mediation.

S-218, also sponsored by Senator O'Connor, which places the position of personnel officer for a local housing authority in the unclassified service of Civil Service.

S-1257, sponsored by State Senator John F. Russo, D-Ocean, which extends from eighteen months to two years the time period in which members of a county board of taxation must furnish proof that they have completed required training courses.

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