

9:17B-4

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA 9:17B-4 (Clarifies "age of majority")

Laws of 1977 Chapter 355

Bill No. S1294

Sponsor(s) Maressa

Date Introduced March 29

Committee: Assembly Judiciary, Law, Public Safety, Defense

Senate Judiciary

Amended during passage: Yesx No

Date of passage: Assembly January 9, 1978

Senate January 24, 1977

Date of approval January 31, 1978

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement Yes ~~Yes~~ Below

Committee Statement: Assembly Yesx No

Senate Yesx No

Fiscal Note Yesx No

Veto message Yesx No

Message on signing Yesx No

Following were printed:

Reports Yesx No

Hearings Yesx No

Sponsor's Statement:

The age of majority was reduced to 18 by P.L. 1972, c.81 (C.9:17B et seq). Many instruments simply make reference to persons in "majority or similar status. The purpose of this bill is to prevent interpretive conflicts of such instruments and also reflect the probable intent of the testator, settlor or otherwise to have his instrument conform to the statutory age of majority.

10/4/76

SENATE, No. 1294

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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INTRODUCED MARCH 29, 1976

By Senator MARESSA

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

AN ACT to clarify the meaning of certain words referring to the age of majority contained in certain legal instruments, and supplementing P. L. 1972, c. 81.

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

1 1. Any testamentary disposition, will, codicil, deed, conveyance,  
2 sale, trust or similar instrument executed prior to January 1, 1973  
3 in which the words "minor," "minority" or "majority" are em-  
4 ployed, shall, unless a contrary intention effectively appears, be  
5 construed to refer to the age of 18 years as delineating the period  
6 of minority and the age of majority.

1 2. This act shall take effect 6 months after enactment.

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STATEMENT

The age of majority was reduced to 18 by P. L. 1972, c. 81 (C. 9:17B et seq.). Many instruments simply make reference to persons in "majority" or similar status. The purpose of this bill is to prevent interpretive conflicts of such instruments and also reflect the probable intent of the testator, settlor or otherwise to have his instrument conform to the statutory age of majority.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

FEBRUARY 1, 1978

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ANNE BURNS

1976-77

Governor Brendan Byrne has signed the following bills into law:

A-2147, sponsored by Assemblyman Alan Karcher, (D-Middlesex), which states that when a taxpayer files an appeal with the county Board of Taxation, he must pay the amount assessed for the first three quarters of the year before the appeal is heard.

If the appeal continues to the State Division of Tax Appeals, the taxpayer will be required to pay the balance of the taxes.

If the taxpayer subsequently wins the tax appeal, the municipality refunds the taxes plus 5 percent interest on the refund.

The bill is intended to correct the inequities which allow the majority of local property taxpayers to be penalized during the period when large property taxpayers are litigating tax appeals.

A-2267, sponsored by Assemblyman John J. Gallagher, (D-Camden) which appropriates \$336,000 to install a fire alarm system equipped with flashing light warning devices at the Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf.

A-3492, sponsored by Assemblyman Walter J. Kavanaugh, (D-Somerset), which exempts authorized volunteer first aid, rescue or emergency squads from paying motor vehicle registration fees for vehicles owned by the organizations.

S-587, sponsored by former Senator Anne Martindell, (D-Princeton), which prohibits lending institutions from increasing payments to mortgage escrow tax accounts on the basis of the institutions "estimate" of a tax increase unless an official notification of tax increases have been given by the taxing district.

The purpose of the measure is to prevent homeowners from having to make tax escrow payments greater than would actually be needed to cover a higher tax bill.

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S-712, sponsored by Senator Joseph Hirkala, D-Passaic, which amends the definition of "health care facility" in the "Health Care Facilities Planning Act" to exclude independently owned and operated bioanalytical laboratories.

Excluding the laboratories from the definition removes the requirement that such labs obtain a certificate of need.

S-1294, sponsored by Senator Joseph Maressa, (D-Camden), which provides that the words "minor", "minority" or "majority" in any testimony disposition, will, codicil, deed, conveyance, sale, trust or similar instrument executed prior to January 1, 1973, must be constructed to refer to the age of 18 years, unless a contrary intent is expressed.

The purpose of the bill is to reflect the probable intent of the testator, settler or other person to have his legal document conform to the statutory age of majority, which was changed from 21 to 18 in 1972.

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