18A:20-37 & 40A:5-15.1

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2017 **CHAPTER:** 310

NJSA: 18A:20-37 & 40A:5-15.1 (Permits local units and school districts to invest in local government investment

pools managed in accordance with applicable Governmental Accounting Standards Board guidelines.)

BILL NO: S2978 (Substituted for A4404)

SPONSOR(S) Beach and others

DATE INTRODUCED: 1/30/2017

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: State & Local Government

SENATE: Community & Urban Affairs

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: 1/8/2018

SENATE: 1/8/2018

DATE OF APPROVAL: 1/16/2018

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (First Reprint enacted)

Yes

S2978

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 7 of introduced bill) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: Yes

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

A4404

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 7 of introduced bill) Yes

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

(continued)

VETO MESSAGE:	No
GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:	No
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:reference.	
REPORTS:	No
HEARINGS:	No
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:	No

RH/CL

P.L. 2017, CHAPTER 310, approved January 16, 2018 Senate, No. 2978 (First Reprint)

1 **AN ACT** concerning local government investment pools and amending P.L.1977, c.177 and P.L.1977, c.396.

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

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- 1. Section 1 of P.L.1977, c.177 (C.18A:20-37) is amended to read as follows:
- 1. a. When authorized by resolution adopted by a majority vote of all its members the board of education of any school district may use moneys, which may be in hand, for the purchase of the following types of securities which, if suitable for registry, may be registered in the name of the school district:
- (1) Bonds or other obligations of the United States of America or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America;
 - (2) Government money market mutual funds;
- (3) Any obligation that a federal agency or a federal instrumentality has issued in accordance with an act of Congress, which security has a maturity date not greater than 397 days from the date of purchase, provided that such obligations bear a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or other external factor;
- (4) Bonds or other obligations of the school district or bonds or other obligations of the local unit or units within which the school district is located;
- (5) Bonds or other obligations, having a maturity date of not more than 397 days from the date of purchase, ¹issued by New Jersey school districts, municipalities, counties, and entities subject to the "Local Authorities Fiscal Control Law," P.L.1983, c.313 (C.40A:5A-1 et seq.). Other bonds or obligations having a maturity date not more than 397 days from the date of purchase may be ¹ approved by the Division of Investment in the Department of the
- approved by the Division of Investment in the Department of the
 Treasury for investment by school districts;
 - (6) Local government investment pools;
- 34 (7) Deposits with the State of New Jersey Cash Management 35 Fund established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1977, c.281 36 (C.52:18A-90.4); or
- 37 (8) Agreements for the repurchase of fully collateralized 38 securities, if:
- 39 (a) the underlying securities are permitted investments pursuant 40 to paragraphs (1) and (3) of this subsection a. ¹or are bonds or other 41 obligations, having a maturity date of not more than 397 days from

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 <u>thus</u> is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

Assembly ASL committee amendments adopted December 4, 2017.

- 1 the date of purchase, issued by New Jersey school districts,
- 2 <u>municipalities, counties, and entities subject to the requirements of</u>
- 3 the "Local Authorities Fiscal Control Law," P.L.1983, c.313 4 (C.40A:5A-1 et seq.)¹;
 - (b) the custody of collateral is transferred to a third party;

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- (c) the maturity of the agreement is not more than 30 days;
- 7 (d) the underlying securities are purchased through a public 8 depository as defined in section 1 of P.L.1970, c.236 (C.17:9-41) 9 and for which a master repurchase agreement providing for the custody and security of collateral is executed.
 - b. Any investment instruments in which the security is not physically held by the school district shall be covered by a third party custodial agreement which shall provide for the designation of such investments in the name of the school board and prevent unauthorized use of such investments.
 - c. Purchase of investment securities shall be executed by the "delivery versus payment" method to ensure that securities are either received by the school district or a third party custodian prior to or upon the release of the school district's funds.
- 20 d. Any investments not purchased and redeemed directly from 21 the issuer, government money market mutual fund, local 22 government investment pool, or the State of New Jersey Cash 23 Management Fund, shall be purchased and redeemed through the 24 use of a national or State bank located within this State or through a 25 broker-dealer which, at the time of purchase or redemption, has 26 been registered continuously for a period of at least two years 27 pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1967, c.93 (C.49:3-56) and has at least 28 \$25 million in capital stock (or equivalent capitalization if not a 29 corporation), surplus reserves for contingencies and undivided 30 profits, or through a securities dealer who makes primary markets 31 in U.S. Government securities and reports daily to the Federal 32 Reserve Bank of New York its position in and borrowing on such
 - e. For the purposes of this section:

U.S. Government securities.

- 35 (1) a "government money market mutual fund" means an 36 investment company or investment trust:
- (a) which is registered with the Securities and Exchange
 Commission under the "Investment Company Act of 1940," 15
 U.S.C. s.80a-1 et seq., and operated in accordance with 17 C.F.R.
 s.270.2a-7 , except that a government money market mutual fund
 may not impose liquidity fees or redemption gates regardless of
 whether permitted to do so under 17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-71;
- (b) the portfolio of which is limited to U.S. Government securities ¹that meet the definition of an eligible security pursuant to 17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7, securities that have been issued by New Jersey school districts, municipalities, counties, and entities subject to the requirements of the "Local Authorities Fiscal Control"

- <u>Law</u>," P.L.1983, c.313 (C.40A:5A-1 et seq.)¹ that meet the 1
- 2 definition of an eligible security pursuant to 17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7
- 3 and repurchase agreements that are collateralized by such ¹[U.S.
- Government 1 securities in which direct investment may be made 4
- pursuant to paragraphs (1) ¹[and], ¹ (3) ¹, and (5) ¹ of subsection a. 5
- 6 of this section; and
- 7 (c) which is rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating 8 organization.
- 9 (2) a "local government investment pool" means an investment 10 pool:
- 11 (a) which is managed in accordance with [17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-
- 7] generally accepted accounting and financial reporting principles 12
- for local government investment pools established by the 13
- 14 Governmental Accounting Standards Board;
- (b) which is rated in the highest category by a nationally 15 16 recognized statistical rating organization;
- 17 (c) the portfolio of which is limited to U.S. Government
- securities ¹that meet the definition of an eligible security pursuant 18
- 19 to 17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7, securities that have been issued by New
- 20 Jersey school districts, municipalities, counties, and entities
- 21 subject to the requirements of the "Local Authorities Fiscal Control
- 22 <u>Law</u>," P.L.1983, c.313 (C.40A:5A-1 et seq.) that meet the
- 23 definition of an eligible security pursuant to 17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7
- 24 and repurchase agreements that are collateralized by such ¹[U.S.
- Government 1 securities in which direct investment may be made 25
- pursuant to paragraphs (1) 1 and 1 , 1 (3) 1 , and (5) 1 of subsection a. 26
- 27 of this section;
- (d) which is in compliance with ¹such¹ rules ¹as may be¹ 28
- 29 adopted pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968,
- 30 c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) by the Local Finance Board of the 31
- Division of Local Government Services in the Department of
- Community Affairs, which ¹may promulgate ¹ rules ¹ [shall provide] 32
- providing¹ for disclosure and reporting requirements, and other 33
- 34 provisions deemed necessary by the board to provide for the safety,
- 35 liquidity and yield of the investments;
- (e) which does not permit investments in instruments that: are 36
- 37 subject to high price volatility with changing market conditions;
- cannot reasonably be expected, at the time of interest rate 38
- 39 adjustment, to have a market value that approximates their par
- 40 value; or utilize an index that does not support a stable net asset
- value; ¹[and]¹ 41
- 42 (f) which purchases and redeems investments directly from the
- issuer, a government money market mutual fund, or the State of 43
- 44 New Jersey Cash Management Fund, or through the use of a
- 45 national or State bank located within this State, or through a broker-
- dealer which, at the time of purchase or redemption, has been 46

- 1 registered continuously for a period of at least two years pursuant to
- 2 section 9 of P.L.1967, c.93 (C.49:3-56) and has at least \$25 million
- 3 in capital stock (or equivalent capitalization if not a corporation),
- 4 surplus reserves for contingencies and undivided profits, or through
- 5 a securities dealer who makes primary markets in U.S. Government
- 6 securities and reports daily to the Federal Reserve Bank of New
- 7 York its position in and borrowing on such U.S. Government
- 8 securities¹; and
- 9 (g) which does not impose liquidity fees or redemption gates 1.
- f. Investments in, or deposits or purchases of financial instruments made pursuant to this section shall not be subject to the
- 12 requirements of the "Public School Contracts Law,"
- 13 N.J.S.18A:18A-1 et seq.
- 14 (cf: P.L.1997, c.148, s.1)

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- 2. Section 8 of P.L.1977, c.396 (C.40A:5-15.1) is amended to read as follows:
 - 8. Securities which may be purchased by local units.
- a. When authorized by a cash management plan approved pursuant to N.J.S.40A:5-14, any local unit may use moneys which may be in hand for the purchase of the following types of securities which, if suitable for registry, may be registered in the name of the local unit:
- (1) Bonds or other obligations of the United States of America or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America;
 - (2) Government money market mutual funds;
- (3) Any obligation that a federal agency or a federal instrumentality has issued in accordance with an act of Congress, which security has a maturity date not greater than 397 days from the date of purchase, provided that such obligation bears a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or other external factor;
- (4) Bonds or other obligations of the local unit or bonds or other obligations of school districts of which the local unit is a part or within which the school district is located;
- (5) Bonds or other obligations, having a maturity date not more than 397 days from the date of purchase, ¹issued by New Jersey school districts, municipalities, counties, and entities subject to the "Local Authorities Fiscal Control Law," P.L.1983, c.313 (C.40A:5A-1 et seq.). Other bonds or obligations having a maturity date not more than 397 days from the date of purchase may be ¹ approved by the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs for investment by local units;
 - (6) Local government investment pools;
- 44 (7) Deposits with the State of New Jersey Cash Management 45 Fund established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1977, c.281 46 (C.52:18A-90.4); or
- 47 (8) Agreements for the repurchase of fully collateralized 48 securities, if:

- 1 (a) the underlying securities are permitted investments pursuant
 2 to paragraphs (1) and (3) of this subsection a. ¹or are bonds or other
 3 obligations, having a maturity date not more than 397 days from the
 4 date of purchase, issued by New Jersey school districts,
 5 municipalities, counties, and entities subject to the "Local
 6 Authorities Fiscal Control Law," P.L.1983, c.313 (C.40A:5A-1 et
 7 seq.¹;
 - (b) the custody of collateral is transferred to a third party;
 - (c) the maturity of the agreement is not more than 30 days;

- 10 (d) the underlying securities are purchased through a public 11 depository as defined in section 1 of P.L.1970, c.236 (C.17:9-41); 12 and
 - (e) a master repurchase agreement providing for the custody and security of collateral is executed.
 - b. Any investment instruments in which the security is not physically held by the local unit shall be covered by a third party custodial agreement which shall provide for the designation of such investments in the name of the local unit and prevent unauthorized use of such investments.
 - c. Purchase of investment securities shall be executed by the "delivery versus payment" method to ensure that securities are either received by the local unit or a third party custodian prior to or upon the release of the local unit's funds.
 - d. Any investments not purchased and redeemed directly from the issuer, government money market mutual fund, local government investment pool, or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund, shall be purchased and redeemed through the use of a national or State bank located within this State or through a broker-dealer which, at the time of purchase or redemption, has been registered continuously for a period of at least two years pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1967, c.93 (C.49:3-56) and has at least \$25 million in capital stock (or equivalent capitalization if not a corporation), surplus reserves for contingencies and undivided profits, or through a securities dealer who makes primary markets in U.S. Government securities and reports daily to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York its position in and borrowing on such U.S. Government securities.
 - e. For the purposes of this section:
- 39 (1) a "government money market mutual fund" means an 40 investment company or investment trust:
- 41 (a) which is registered with the Securities and Exchange
 42 Commission under the "Investment Company Act of 1940," 15
 43 U.S.C. s.80a-1 et seq., and operated in accordance with 17 C.F.R.
 44 s.270.2a-7 ¹, except that a government money market mutual fund
 45 may not impose liquidity fees or redemption gates regardless of
- whether permitted to do so under 17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7¹;

- 1 (b) the portfolio of which is limited to U.S. Government
- 2 securities ¹that meet the definition of an eligible security pursuant
- 3 to 17C.F.R.s.270.2a-7, securities that have been issued by New
- 4 Jersey school districts, municipalities, counties, and entities subject
- 5 to the "Local Authorities Fiscal Control Law," P.L.1983, c.313
- 6 $(C.40A:5A-1 \text{ et seq.})^1$ that meet the definition of an eligible security
- 7 pursuant to 17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7, and repurchase agreements that
- 8 are collateralized by such ¹[U.S. Government]¹ securities in which
- 9 direct investment may be made pursuant to paragraphs (1) ¹ [and], ¹
- 10 (3) $\frac{1}{2}$, and (5) of subsection a. of this section; and
- 11 (c) which is rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating 12 organization.
 - (2) a "local government investment pool" means an investment pool:
- 15 (a) which is managed in accordance [with 17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-16 7] with generally accepted accounting and financial reporting
- 7] ¹with ¹ generally accepted accounting and financial reporting principles for local government investment pools established by the
- 18 Governmental Accounting Standards Board;

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- 19 (b) which is rated in the highest category by a nationally 20 recognized statistical rating organization;
 - (c) which is limited to U.S. Government securities ¹that meet
- 22 the definition of an eligible security pursuant to 17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-
- 23 7, securities that have been issued by New Jersey school districts,
- 24 <u>municipalities</u>, counties, and entities subject to the "Local
- 25 Authorities Fiscal Control Law," P.L.1983, c.313 (C.40A:5A-1 et
- $\underline{\text{seq.}}$)¹ that meet the definition of an eligible security pursuant to 17
- 27 C.F.R. 270.2a-7 and repurchase agreements that are collateralized
- by such ¹[U.S. Government] securities in which direct investment
- 29 may be made pursuant to paragraphs (1) 1 [and] 1 (3) 1 , and (5) 1 of
- 30 subsection a. of this section;
- 31 (d) which is in compliance with ¹such ¹ rules ¹as may be ¹
- 32 adopted pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968,
- 33 c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) by the Local Finance Board of the
- 34 Division of Local Government Services in the Department of
- Community Affairs, which ¹may promulgate ¹ rules ¹[shall provide]
- 36 <u>providing</u>¹ for disclosure and reporting requirements, and other
- 37 provisions deemed necessary by the board to provide for the safety,
- 38 liquidity and yield of the investments;
- 39 (e) which does not permit investments in instruments that: are
- 40 subject to high price volatility with changing market conditions;
- 41 cannot reasonably be expected, at the time of interest rate
- 42 adjustment, to have a market value that approximates their par
- value; or utilize an index that does not support a stable net asset
- 44 value; ¹[and]¹
- 45 (f) which purchases and redeems investments directly from the
- 46 issuer, government money market mutual fund, or the State of New

S2978 [1R]

1	Jersey Cash Management Fund, or through the use of a national or
2	State bank located within this State, or through a broker-dealer
3	which, at the time of purchase or redemption, has been registered
4	continuously for a period of at least two years pursuant to section 9
5	of P.L.1967, c.93 (C.49:3-56) and has at least \$25 million in capital
6	stock (or equivalent capitalization if not a corporation), surplus
7	reserves for contingencies and undivided profits, or through a
8	securities dealer who makes primary markets in U.S. Government
9	securities and reports daily to the Federal Reserve Bank of New
10	York its position in and borrowing on such U.S. Government
11	securities ¹ ; and
12	(g) which does not impose liquidity fees or redemption gates 1.
13	f. Investments in, or deposits or purchases of financial

f. Investments in, or deposits or purchases of financial instruments made pursuant to this section shall not be subject to the requirements of the "Local Public Contracts Law," P.L.1971, c.198 (C.40A:11-1 et seq.).

17 (cf: P.L.2015, c.95, s.16)

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

Permits local units and school districts to invest in local government investment pools managed in accordance with applicable Governmental Accounting Standards Board guidelines.

SENATE, No. 2978

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 30, 2017

Sponsored by:

Senator JAMES BEACH

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Senator NILSA CRUZ-PEREZ

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

SYNOPSIS

Permits local units and school districts to invest in local government investment pools managed in accordance with applicable Governmental Accounting Standards Board guidelines.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/20/2017)

1 AN ACT concerning local government investment pools and 2 amending P.L.1977, c.177 and P.L.1977, c.396.

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

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- 1. Section 1 of P.L.1977, c.177 (C.18A:20-37) is amended to read as follows:
- 1. a. When authorized by resolution adopted by a majority vote of all its members the board of education of any school district may use moneys, which may be in hand, for the purchase of the following types of securities which, if suitable for registry, may be registered in the name of the school district:
- (1) Bonds or other obligations of the United States of America or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America;
 - (2) Government money market mutual funds;
- (3) Any obligation that a federal agency or a federal instrumentality has issued in accordance with an act of Congress, which security has a maturity date not greater than 397 days from the date of purchase, provided that such obligations bear a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or other external factor;
- (4) Bonds or other obligations of the school district or bonds or other obligations of the local unit or units within which the school district is located;
- (5) Bonds or other obligations, having a maturity date of not more than 397 days from the date of purchase, approved by the Division of Investment in the Department of the Treasury for investment by school districts;
 - (6) Local government investment pools;
- 30 (7) Deposits with the State of New Jersey Cash Management established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1977, c.281 (C.52:18A-90.4); or
- 33 (8) Agreements for the repurchase of fully collateralized 34 securities, if:
- 35 (a) the underlying securities are permitted investments pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) of this subsection a.; 36
 - (b) the custody of collateral is transferred to a third party;
 - (c) the maturity of the agreement is not more than 30 days;
 - (d) the underlying securities are purchased through a public depository as defined in section 1 of P.L.1970, c.236 (C.17:9-41) and for which a master repurchase agreement providing for the custody and security of collateral is executed.
- 43 b. Any investment instruments in which the security is not 44 physically held by the school district shall be covered by a third 45 party custodial agreement which shall provide for the designation of

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

1 such investments in the name of the school board and prevent 2 unauthorized use of such investments.

c. Purchase of investment securities shall be executed by the "delivery versus payment" method to ensure that securities are either received by the school district or a third party custodian prior

government investment pool, or the State of New Jersey Cash

- 5 to or upon the release of the school district's funds. 6 7 d. Any investments not purchased and redeemed directly from 8 the issuer, government money market mutual fund, local
- 10 Management Fund, shall be purchased and redeemed through the 11 use of a national or State bank located within this State or through a
- broker-dealer which, at the time of purchase or redemption, has 12
- been registered continuously for a period of at least two years 13
- 14 pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1967, c.93 (C.49:3-56) and has at least
- 15 \$25 million in capital stock (or equivalent capitalization if not a
- 16 corporation), surplus reserves for contingencies and undivided
- profits, or through a securities dealer who makes primary markets 17
- 18 in U.S. Government securities and reports daily to the Federal
- 19 Reserve Bank of New York its position in and borrowing on such
- 20 U.S. Government securities.

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- e. For the purposes of this section:
- (1) a "government money market mutual fund" means an investment company or investment trust:
- 24 (a) which is registered with the Securities and Exchange 25 Commission under the "Investment Company Act of 1940," 15 U.S.C. s.80a-1 et seq., and operated in accordance with 17 C.F.R. 26 27 s.270.2a-7;
- 28 (b) the portfolio of which is limited to U.S. Government 29 securities that meet the definition of an eligible security pursuant to 30 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7 and repurchase agreements that are 31 collateralized by such U.S. Government securities in which direct investment may be made pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) of 32 33 subsection a. of this section; and
- 34 (c) which is rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating 35 organization.
- 36 (2) a "local government investment pool" means an investment 37 pool:
- 38 (a) which is managed in accordance with **[**17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7] generally accepted accounting and financial reporting principles 39 40 for local government investment pools established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board; 41
- 42 (b) which is rated in the highest category by a nationally 43 recognized statistical rating organization;
- 44 (c) the portfolio of which is limited to U.S. Government 45 securities that meet the definition of an eligible security pursuant to C.F.R. s.270.2a-7 and repurchase agreements that are 46 47 collateralized by such U.S. Government securities in which direct

1 investment may be made pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) of 2 subsection a. of this section;

- (d) which is in compliance with rules adopted pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) by the Local Finance Board of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs, which rules shall provide for disclosure and reporting requirements, and other provisions deemed necessary by the board to provide for the safety, liquidity and yield of the investments;
- (e) which does not permit investments in instruments that: are subject to high price volatility with changing market conditions; cannot reasonably be expected, at the time of interest rate adjustment, to have a market value that approximates their par value; or utilize an index that does not support a stable net asset value; and
- (f) which purchases and redeems investments directly from the issuer, a government money market mutual fund, or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund, or through the use of a national or State bank located within this State, or through a broker-dealer which, at the time of purchase or redemption, has been registered continuously for a period of at least two years pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1967, c.93 (C.49:3-56) and has at least \$25 million in capital stock (or equivalent capitalization if not a corporation), surplus reserves for contingencies and undivided profits, or through a securities dealer who makes primary markets in U.S. Government securities and reports daily to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York its position in and borrowing on such U.S. Government securities.
- f. Investments in, or deposits or purchases of financial instruments made pursuant to this section shall not be subject to the requirements of the "Public School Contracts Law," N.J.S.18A:18A-1 et seq.
- 33 (cf: P.L.1997, c.148, s.1)

- 35 2. Section 8 of P.L.1977, c.396 (C.40A:5-15.1) is amended to 36 read as follows:
 - 8. Securities which may be purchased by local units.
 - a. When authorized by a cash management plan approved pursuant to N.J.S.40A:5-14, any local unit may use moneys which may be in hand for the purchase of the following types of securities which, if suitable for registry, may be registered in the name of the local unit:
- 43 (1) Bonds or other obligations of the United States of America 44 or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America;
 - (2) Government money market mutual funds;
- 46 (3) Any obligation that a federal agency or a federal 47 instrumentality has issued in accordance with an act of Congress, 48 which security has a maturity date not greater than 397 days from

- the date of purchase, provided that such obligation bears a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or other external factor;
 - (4) Bonds or other obligations of the local unit or bonds or other obligations of school districts of which the local unit is a part or within which the school district is located;
 - (5) Bonds or other obligations, having a maturity date not more than 397 days from the date of purchase, approved by the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs for investment by local units;
 - (6) Local government investment pools;

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- (7) Deposits with the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1977, c.281 (C.52:18A-90.4); or
 - (8) Agreements for the repurchase of fully collateralized securities, if:
 - (a) the underlying securities are permitted investments pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) of this subsection a.;
 - (b) the custody of collateral is transferred to a third party;
- (c) the maturity of the agreement is not more than 30 days;
 - (d) the underlying securities are purchased through a public depository as defined in section 1 of P.L.1970, c.236 (C.17:9-41);
 - (e) a master repurchase agreement providing for the custody and security of collateral is executed.
 - b. Any investment instruments in which the security is not physically held by the local unit shall be covered by a third party custodial agreement which shall provide for the designation of such investments in the name of the local unit and prevent unauthorized use of such investments.
 - c. Purchase of investment securities shall be executed by the "delivery versus payment" method to ensure that securities are either received by the local unit or a third party custodian prior to or upon the release of the local unit's funds.
 - d. Any investments not purchased and redeemed directly from the issuer, government money market mutual fund, local government investment pool, or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund, shall be purchased and redeemed through the use of a national or State bank located within this State or through a broker-dealer which, at the time of purchase or redemption, has been registered continuously for a period of at least two years pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1967, c.93 (C.49:3-56) and has at least \$25 million in capital stock (or equivalent capitalization if not a corporation), surplus reserves for contingencies and undivided profits, or through a securities dealer who makes primary markets in U.S. Government securities and reports daily to the Federal
- 45
- 46 Reserve Bank of New York its position in and borrowing on such
- 47 U.S. Government securities.
- 48 e. For the purposes of this section:

(1) a "government money market mutual fund" means an 2 investment company or investment trust:

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- (a) which is registered with the Securities and Exchange 3 Commission under the "Investment Company Act of 1940," 15 4 5 U.S.C. s.80a-1 et seq., and operated in accordance with 17 C.F.R. 6 s.270.2a-7;
 - (b) the portfolio of which is limited to U.S. Government securities that meet the definition of an eligible security pursuant to C.F.R. s.270.2a-7 and repurchase agreements that are collateralized by such U.S. Government securities in which direct investment may be made pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) of subsection a. of this section; and
- (c) which is rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating 13 14 organization.
 - (2) a "local government investment pool" means an investment pool:
 - (a) which is managed in accordance [with 17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7] generally accepted accounting and financial reporting principles for local government investment pools established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board;
 - (b) which is rated in the highest category by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization;
 - (c) which is limited to U.S. Government securities that meet the definition of an eligible security pursuant to 17 C.F.R. 270.2a-7 and repurchase agreements that are collateralized by such U.S. Government securities in which direct investment may be made pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) of subsection a. of this section;
 - (d) which is in compliance with rules adopted pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) by the Local Finance Board of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs, which rules shall provide for disclosure and reporting requirements, and other provisions deemed necessary by the board to provide for the safety, liquidity and yield of the investments;
 - (e) which does not permit investments in instruments that: are subject to high price volatility with changing market conditions; cannot reasonably be expected, at the time of interest rate adjustment, to have a market value that approximates their par value; or utilize an index that does not support a stable net asset value; and
 - (f) which purchases and redeems investments directly from the issuer, government money market mutual fund, or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund, or through the use of a national or State bank located within this State, or through a broker-dealer which, at the time of purchase or redemption, has been registered continuously for a period of at least two years pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1967, c.93 (C.49:3-56) and has at least \$25 million in capital stock (or equivalent capitalization if not a corporation), surplus

S2978 BEACH, CRUZ-PEREZ

reserves for contingencies and undivided profits, or through a securities dealer who makes primary markets in U.S. Government securities and reports daily to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York its position in and borrowing on such U.S. Government securities.

f. Investments in, or deposits or purchases of financial instruments made pursuant to this section shall not be subject to the requirements of the "Local Public Contracts Law," P.L.1971, c.198 (C.40A:11-1 et seq.).

(cf: P.L.2015, c.95, s.16)

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill amends current law governing the types of securities that may be purchased by local units and school districts to provide that local government investment pools must be managed in accordance with generally accepted accounting and financial reporting principles established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Current law requires local government investment pools to be managed pursuant to U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) regulations governing money market funds (17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7). Local government investment pools function like money market funds in the private sector.

In July 2014, the SEC published amendments to these regulations that took effect in April 2016. GASB research indicated that the SEC regulatory revisions would affect investment pools to an extent that few governments would be able to continue to place their funds in these types of securities. For example, the revised federal regulations require pool participants to transact at a floating net asset value instead of a stable net asset value, and allow for the potential imposition of liquidity fees or redemption gates. These new regulations could make it difficult for New Jersey local governments to withdraw their funds from an investment pool to meet cash flow needs.

In December 2015, GASB issued Statement No. 79 (GASB 79) to address accounting and financial reporting for certain external investment pools and pool participants. GASB 79 establishes specific criteria for an external investment pool to measure its investments at amortized cost for reporting purposes. The use of amortized cost is allowed if the pool uses a stable net asset value per share and meets all GASB requirements regarding investment maturity, quality, diversification, liquidity, and the shadow price requirement. GASB 79 also requires investment pools and pool participants to disclose any limitation on participant withdrawals.

S2978 BEACH, CRUZ-PEREZ

1	Enactment of this bill would permit New Jersey's local units and
2	school districts to place public funds in local government
3	investment pools that are managed in accordance with GASB
4	benchmarks. It is the sponsor's view that local government entities
5	should be able to continue to use safe and liquid investments with
6	competitive interest rates as a means of generating interest income
7	on operating and reserve funds and bond proceeds. Interest income
8	allows local units and school districts to restrain property tax
9	increases and borrowing needs. These entities have limited
10	investment options and enactment of this legislation will make it
11	easier for them to find suitable investments.

SENATE COMMUNITY AND URBAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2978

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 19, 2017

The Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2978.

This bill amends current law governing the types of securities that may be purchased by local units and school districts to provide that local government investment pools must be managed in accordance with generally accepted accounting and financial reporting principles established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Current law requires local government investment pools to be managed pursuant to United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) regulations governing money market funds (17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7). Local government investment pools function like money market funds in the private sector.

In July 2014, the SEC published amendments to these regulations that took effect in April 2016. GASB research indicated that the SEC regulatory revisions would affect investment pools to an extent that few governments would be able to continue to place their funds in these types of securities. For example, the revised federal regulations require pool participants to transact at a floating net asset value instead of a stable net asset value, and allow for the potential imposition of liquidity fees or redemption gates. These new regulations could make it difficult for New Jersey local governments to withdraw their funds from an investment pool to meet cash flow needs.

In December 2015, GASB issued Statement No. 79 (GASB 79) to address accounting and financial reporting for certain external investment pools and pool participants. GASB 79 establishes specific criteria for an external investment pool to measure its investments at amortized cost for reporting purposes. The use of amortized cost is allowed if the pool uses a stable net asset value per share and meets all GASB requirements regarding investment maturity, quality, diversification, liquidity, and the shadow price requirement. GASB 79 also requires investment pools and pool participants to disclose any limitation on participant withdrawals.

Enactment of this bill would permit New Jersey's local units and school districts to place public funds in local government investment pools that are managed in accordance with GASB benchmarks. It is the sponsor's view that local government entities should be able to continue to use safe and liquid investments with competitive interest rates as a means of generating interest income on operating and

reserve funds and bond proceeds. Interest income allows local units and school districts to restrain property tax increases and borrowing needs. These entities have limited investment options and enactment of this legislation will make it easier for them to find suitable investments.

ASSEMBLY STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2978

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 4, 2017

The Assembly State and Local Government Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 2978.

This bill, as amended, revises current law governing the types of securities that may be purchased by local units and school districts to provide that local government investment pools must be managed in accordance with generally accepted accounting and financial reporting principles established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Current law requires local government investment pools to be managed pursuant to U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) regulations governing money market funds (17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7). Local government investment pools function like money market funds in the private sector

In July 2014, the SEC published amendments to these regulations that took effect in April 2016. GASB research indicated that the SEC regulatory revisions would affect investment pools to an extent that few governments would be able to continue to place their funds in these types of securities. For example, the revised federal regulations require pool participants to transact at a floating net asset value instead of a stable net asset value, and allow for the potential imposition of liquidity fees or redemption gates. These new regulations could make it difficult for New Jersey local governments to withdraw their funds from an investment pool to meet cash flow needs.

In December 2015, GASB issued Statement No. 79 (GASB 79) to address accounting and financial reporting for certain external investment pools and pool participants. GASB 79 establishes specific criteria for an external investment pool to measure its investments at amortized cost for reporting purposes. The use of amortized cost is allowed if the pool uses a stable net asset value per share and meets all GASB requirements regarding investment maturity, quality, diversification, liquidity, and the shadow price requirement. GASB 79 also requires investment pools and pool participants to disclose any limitation on participant withdrawals.

This bill is identical to A4404, sponsored by Assemblyman Greenwald, which is also before the committee, with proposed amendments, for consideration at this meeting.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to:

- expand local unit and school districts investment options into municipal, county, local authority, and school district shortterm debt obligations (notes with a term not exceeding 397 days);
- require that government money market mutual funds and local government investment pools cannot impose barriers or penalties to withdrawing local government investment funds;
- permit, rather than mandate, the Local Finance Board to promulgate rules for local government investment pools pertaining to accounting and disclosure, because the Governmental Accounting Standards Board's requirements are more than sufficient with respect to these areas.

ASSEMBLY, No. 4404

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 15, 2016

Sponsored by: Assemblyman LOUIS D. GREENWALD District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Permits local units and school districts to invest in local government investment pools managed in accordance with applicable Governmental Accounting Standards Board guidelines.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning local government investment pools and 2 amending P.L.1977, c.177 and P.L.1977, c.396.

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

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- 1. Section 1 of P.L.1977, c.177 (C.18A:20-37) is amended to read as follows:
- 1. a. When authorized by resolution adopted by a majority vote of all its members the board of education of any school district may use moneys, which may be in hand, for the purchase of the following types of securities which, if suitable for registry, may be registered in the name of the school district:
- (1) Bonds or other obligations of the United States of America or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America;
 - (2) Government money market mutual funds;
- (3) Any obligation that a federal agency or a federal instrumentality has issued in accordance with an act of Congress, which security has a maturity date not greater than 397 days from the date of purchase, provided that such obligations bear a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or other external factor;
- (4) Bonds or other obligations of the school district or bonds or other obligations of the local unit or units within which the school district is located;
- (5) Bonds or other obligations, having a maturity date of not more than 397 days from the date of purchase, approved by the Division of Investment in the Department of the Treasury for investment by school districts;
 - (6) Local government investment pools;
- (7) Deposits with the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1977, c.281 (C.52:18A-90.4); or
- (8) Agreements for the repurchase of fully collateralized securities, if:
- (a) the underlying securities are permitted investments pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) of this subsection a.; 36
 - (b) the custody of collateral is transferred to a third party;
 - (c) the maturity of the agreement is not more than 30 days;
 - (d) the underlying securities are purchased through a public depository as defined in section 1 of P.L.1970, c.236 (C.17:9-41) and for which a master repurchase agreement providing for the custody and security of collateral is executed.
- 43 Any investment instruments in which the security is not 44 physically held by the school district shall be covered by a third party custodial agreement which shall provide for the designation of 45

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

such investments in the name of the school board and prevent unauthorized use of such investments.

- c. Purchase of investment securities shall be executed by the "delivery versus payment" method to ensure that securities are either received by the school district or a third party custodian prior to or upon the release of the school district's funds.
- d. Any investments not purchased and redeemed directly from the issuer, government money market mutual fund, local government investment pool, or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund, shall be purchased and redeemed through the use of a national or State bank located within this State or through a broker-dealer which, at the time of purchase or redemption, has been registered continuously for a period of at least two years pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1967, c.93 (C.49:3-56) and has at least \$25 million in capital stock (or equivalent capitalization if not a corporation), surplus reserves for contingencies and undivided
- profits, or through a securities dealer who makes primary markets
- 18 in U.S. Government securities and reports daily to the Federal
- 19 Reserve Bank of New York its position in and borrowing on such
- 20 U.S. Government securities.

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- e. For the purposes of this section:
- (1) a "government money market mutual fund" means an investment company or investment trust:
- 24 (a) which is registered with the Securities and Exchange 25 Commission under the "Investment Company Act of 1940," 15 26 U.S.C. s.80a-1 et seq., and operated in accordance with 17 C.F.R. 27 s.270.2a-7;
- 28 (b) the portfolio of which is limited to U.S. Government 29 securities that meet the definition of an eligible security pursuant to 30 17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7 and repurchase agreements that are 31 collateralized by such U.S. Government securities in which direct 32 investment may be made pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) of 33 subsection a. of this section; and
- 34 (c) which is rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating 35 organization.
- 36 (2) a "local government investment pool" means an investment 37 pool:
- 38 (a) which is managed in accordance with [17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-39 7] generally accepted accounting and financial reporting principles
 40 for local government investment pools established by the
 41 Governmental Accounting Standards Board;
- 42 (b) which is rated in the highest category by a nationally 43 recognized statistical rating organization;
- 44 (c) the portfolio of which is limited to U.S. Government 45 securities that meet the definition of an eligible security pursuant to 46 17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7 and repurchase agreements that are 47 collateralized by such U.S. Government securities in which direct

1 investment may be made pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) of 2 subsection a. of this section;

- (d) which is in compliance with rules adopted pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) by the Local Finance Board of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs, which rules shall provide for disclosure and reporting requirements, and other provisions deemed necessary by the board to provide for the safety, liquidity and yield of the investments;
- (e) which does not permit investments in instruments that: are subject to high price volatility with changing market conditions; cannot reasonably be expected, at the time of interest rate adjustment, to have a market value that approximates their par value; or utilize an index that does not support a stable net asset value; and
- (f) which purchases and redeems investments directly from the issuer, a government money market mutual fund, or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund, or through the use of a national or State bank located within this State, or through a broker-dealer which, at the time of purchase or redemption, has been registered continuously for a period of at least two years pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1967, c.93 (C.49:3-56) and has at least \$25 million in capital stock (or equivalent capitalization if not a corporation), surplus reserves for contingencies and undivided profits, or through a securities dealer who makes primary markets in U.S. Government securities and reports daily to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York its position in and borrowing on such U.S. Government securities.
- f. Investments in, or deposits or purchases of financial instruments made pursuant to this section shall not be subject to the requirements of the "Public School Contracts Law," N.J.S.18A:18A-1 et seq.
- 33 (cf: P.L.1997, c.148, s.1)

- 35 2. Section 8 of P.L.1977, c.396 (C.40A:5-15.1) is amended to 36 read as follows:
 - 8. Securities which may be purchased by local units.
 - a. When authorized by a cash management plan approved pursuant to N.J.S.40A:5-14, any local unit may use moneys which may be in hand for the purchase of the following types of securities which, if suitable for registry, may be registered in the name of the local unit:
- 43 (1) Bonds or other obligations of the United States of America 44 or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America;
 - (2) Government money market mutual funds;
- 46 (3) Any obligation that a federal agency or a federal 47 instrumentality has issued in accordance with an act of Congress, 48 which security has a maturity date not greater than 397 days from

the date of purchase, provided that such obligation bears a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or other external factor;

- (4) Bonds or other obligations of the local unit or bonds or other obligations of school districts of which the local unit is a part or within which the school district is located;
- (5) Bonds or other obligations, having a maturity date not more than 397 days from the date of purchase, approved by the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs for investment by local units;
 - (6) Local government investment pools;

- (7) Deposits with the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1977, c.281 (C.52:18A-90.4); or
 - (8) Agreements for the repurchase of fully collateralized securities, if:
 - (a) the underlying securities are permitted investments pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) of this subsection a.;
 - (b) the custody of collateral is transferred to a third party;
 - (c) the maturity of the agreement is not more than 30 days;
 - (d) the underlying securities are purchased through a public depository as defined in section 1 of P.L.1970, c.236 (C.17:9-41); and
 - (e) a master repurchase agreement providing for the custody and security of collateral is executed.
 - b. Any investment instruments in which the security is not physically held by the local unit shall be covered by a third party custodial agreement which shall provide for the designation of such investments in the name of the local unit and prevent unauthorized use of such investments.
 - c. Purchase of investment securities shall be executed by the "delivery versus payment" method to ensure that securities are either received by the local unit or a third party custodian prior to or upon the release of the local unit's funds.
- d. Any investments not purchased and redeemed directly from the issuer, government money market mutual fund, local government investment pool, or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund, shall be purchased and redeemed through the use of a national or State bank located within this State or through a broker-dealer which, at the time of purchase or redemption, has been registered continuously for a period of at least two years pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1967, c.93 (C.49:3-56) and has at least \$25 million in capital stock (or equivalent capitalization if not a corporation), surplus reserves for contingencies and undivided profits, or through a securities dealer who makes primary markets in U.S. Government securities and reports daily to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York its position in and borrowing on such
- 47 U.S. Government securities.
- e. For the purposes of this section:

- 1 (1) a "government money market mutual fund" means an investment company or investment trust:
- 3 (a) which is registered with the Securities and Exchange 4 Commission under the "Investment Company Act of 1940," 15 5 U.S.C. s.80a-1 et seq., and operated in accordance with 17 C.F.R. 6 s.270.2a-7;

- (b) the portfolio of which is limited to U.S. Government securities that meet the definition of an eligible security pursuant to 17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7 and repurchase agreements that are collateralized by such U.S. Government securities in which direct investment may be made pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) of subsection a. of this section; and
- 13 (c) which is rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating 14 organization.
 - (2) a "local government investment pool" means an investment pool:
 - (a) which is managed in accordance [with 17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7] generally accepted accounting and financial reporting principles for local government investment pools established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board;
 - (b) which is rated in the highest category by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization;
 - (c) which is limited to U.S. Government securities that meet the definition of an eligible security pursuant to 17 C.F.R. 270.2a-7 and repurchase agreements that are collateralized by such U.S. Government securities in which direct investment may be made pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) of subsection a. of this section;
 - (d) which is in compliance with rules adopted pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) by the Local Finance Board of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs, which rules shall provide for disclosure and reporting requirements, and other provisions deemed necessary by the board to provide for the safety, liquidity and yield of the investments;
 - (e) which does not permit investments in instruments that: are subject to high price volatility with changing market conditions; cannot reasonably be expected, at the time of interest rate adjustment, to have a market value that approximates their par value; or utilize an index that does not support a stable net asset value; and
 - (f) which purchases and redeems investments directly from the issuer, government money market mutual fund, or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund, or through the use of a national or State bank located within this State, or through a broker-dealer which, at the time of purchase or redemption, has been registered continuously for a period of at least two years pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1967, c.93 (C.49:3-56) and has at least \$25 million in capital stock (or equivalent capitalization if not a corporation), surplus

A4404 GREENWALD

reserves for contingencies and undivided profits, or through a securities dealer who makes primary markets in U.S. Government securities and reports daily to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York its position in and borrowing on such U.S. Government securities.

f. Investments in, or deposits or purchases of financial instruments made pursuant to this section shall not be subject to the requirements of the "Local Public Contracts Law," P.L.1971, c.198 (C.40A:11-1 et seq.).

(cf: P.L.2015, c.95, s.16)

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill amends current law governing the types of securities that may be purchased by local units and school districts to provide that local government investment pools must be managed in accordance with generally accepted accounting and financial reporting principles established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Current law requires local government investment pools to be managed pursuant to U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) regulations governing money market funds (17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7). Local government investment pools function like money market funds in the private sector.

In July 2014, the SEC published amendments to these regulations that took effect in April 2016. GASB research indicated that the SEC regulatory revisions would affect investment pools to an extent that few governments would be able to continue to place their funds in these types of securities. For example, the revised federal regulations require pool participants to transact at a floating net asset value instead of a stable net asset value, and allow for the potential imposition of liquidity fees or redemption gates. These new regulations could make it difficult for New Jersey local governments to withdraw their funds from an investment pool to meet cash flow needs.

In December 2015, GASB issued Statement No. 79 (GASB 79) to address accounting and financial reporting for certain external investment pools and pool participants. GASB 79 establishes specific criteria for an external investment pool to measure its investments at amortized cost for reporting purposes. The use of amortized cost is allowed if the pool uses a stable net asset value per share and meets all GASB requirements regarding investment maturity, quality, diversification, liquidity, and the shadow price requirement. GASB 79 also requires investment pools and pool participants to disclose any limitation on participant withdrawals.

A4404 GREENWALD

1	Enactment of this bill would permit New Jersey's local units and
2	school districts to place public funds in local government
3	investment pools that are managed in accordance with GASB
4	benchmarks. It is the sponsor's view that local government entities
5	should be able to continue to use safe and liquid investments with
6	competitive interest rates as a means of generating interest income
7	on operating and reserve funds and bond proceeds. Interest income
8	allows local units and school districts to restrain property tax
9	increases and borrowing needs. These entities have limited
10	investment options and enactment of this legislation will make it
11	easier for them to find suitable investments.

ASSEMBLY STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 4404

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 4, 2017

The Assembly State and Local Government Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 4404.

This bill, as amended, revises current law governing the types of securities that may be purchased by local units and school districts to provide that local government investment pools must be managed in accordance with generally accepted accounting and financial reporting principles established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Current law requires local government investment pools to be managed pursuant to U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) regulations governing money market funds (17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7). Local government investment pools function like money market funds in the private sector

In July 2014, the SEC published amendments to these regulations that took effect in April 2016. GASB research indicated that the SEC regulatory revisions would affect investment pools to an extent that few governments would be able to continue to place their funds in these types of securities. For example, the revised federal regulations require pool participants to transact at a floating net asset value instead of a stable net asset value, and allow for the potential imposition of liquidity fees or redemption gates. These new regulations could make it difficult for New Jersey local governments to withdraw their funds from an investment pool to meet cash flow needs.

In December 2015, GASB issued Statement No. 79 (GASB 79) to address accounting and financial reporting for certain external investment pools and pool participants. GASB 79 establishes specific criteria for an external investment pool to measure its investments at amortized cost for reporting purposes. The use of amortized cost is allowed if the pool uses a stable net asset value per share and meets all GASB requirements regarding investment maturity, quality, diversification, liquidity, and the shadow price requirement. GASB 79 also requires investment pools and pool participants to disclose any limitation on participant withdrawals.

This bill is identical to S2978, sponsored by Senators Beach and Cruz-Perez, which is also before the committee, with proposed amendments, for consideration at this meeting.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to:

- expand local unit and school districts investment options into municipal, county, local authority, and school district shortterm debt obligations (notes with a term not exceeding 397 days);
- require that government money market mutual funds and local government investment pools cannot impose barriers or penalties to withdrawing local government investment funds;
- permit, rather than mandate, the Local Finance Board to promulgate rules for local government investment pools pertaining to accounting and disclosure, because the Governmental Accounting Standards Board's requirements are more than sufficient with respect to these areas.