



## ***LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST***

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**LAWS OF:** 1998

**CHAPTER:**63

**NJSA:**11A:4-1.1

"Firefighter and Law Enforcement Officer Exams -- fees"

**BILL NO:** S1252 (Substituted for A2231)

**SPONSOR(S):** Inverso

**DATE INTRODUCED:** June 22, 1998

**COMMITTEE:**

**ASSEMBLY:** ~~~~

**SENATE:**Budget and Appropriations

**AMENDED DURING PASSAGE:**Yes

**DATE OF PASSAGE:**

**ASSEMBLY:** July 30, 1998

**SENATE:** July 30, 1998

**DATE OF APPROVAL:** July 31, 1998

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### **THE FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:**

**FINAL TEXT OF BILL:** 1<sup>st</sup> reprint

(Amendments during passage denoted by superscript numbers)

**S1252**

**SPONSORS STATEMENT:** *Yes* (Begins on page 3 of original bill)

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:**

**ASSEMBLY:***No*

**SENATE:** *Yes*

**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS:** *No*

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** *Yes*

**A2231**

**SPONSORS STATEMENT:** *Yes* (Begins on page 3 of original bill)  
(Bill and Sponsors Statement identical to S1252)

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:**

**ASSEMBLY:** *Yes*

**SENATE:** *No*

**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS:** *Yes*

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** *Yes*

(Identical to Legislative Fiscal Estimate for S1252)

**VETO MESSAGE:** *No*

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

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**THE FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:**

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**REPORTS:** *No*

**HEARINGS:** *No*

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:** *No*

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[First Reprint]

**SENATE, No. 1252**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**208th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED JUNE 22, 1998

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator PETER A. INVERSO**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

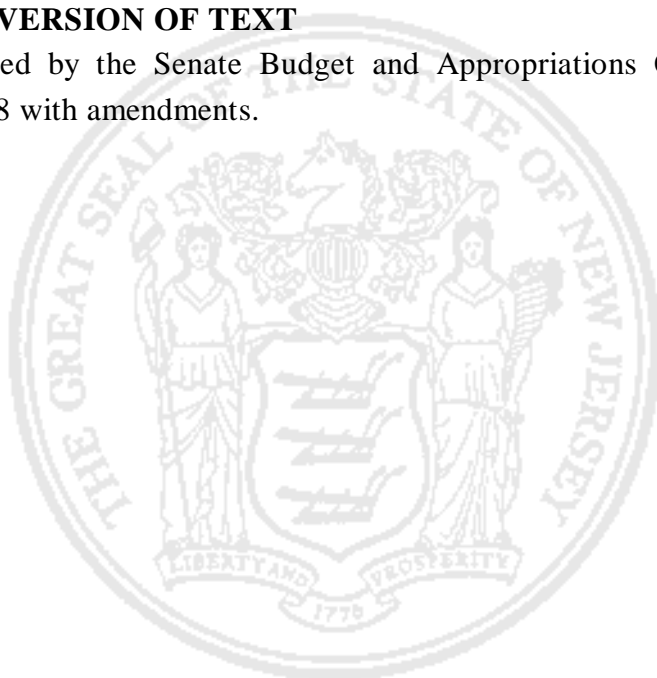
**Assemblyman Lance**

**SYNOPSIS**

Directs Commissioner of Personnel to establish application fees for law enforcement officer and firefighter exams.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on June 29, 1998 with amendments.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 7/31/1998)**

S1252 [1R] INVERSO

2

1 AN ACT concerning application fees for certain examinations and  
2 amending P.L.1992, c.197

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6  
7 1. Section 1 of P.L.1992, c.197 (C.11A:4-1.1) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 1. a. ~~【The】~~Except as provided in subsection b. of this section  
10 concerning law enforcement officer and firefighter examinations, the  
11 Commissioner of the Department of Personnel shall establish a \$5 fee  
12 for each application for an open competitive or promotional  
13 examination. Persons receiving public assistance benefits pursuant to  
14 P.L.1947, c.156 (C.44:8-107 et seq.), <sup>1</sup>~~【P.L.1959, c.86 (C.44:10-1 et~~  
15 ~~seq.), or】~~<sup>1</sup> P.L.1973, c.256 (C.44:7-85 et seq.)<sup>1</sup>, or P.L.1997, c.38  
16 (C.44:10-55 et seq.)<sup>1</sup> shall not be required to pay this fee if they apply  
17 for an open competitive examination. Receipts derived from  
18 application fees established by this subsection shall be appropriated to  
19 the department.

20 b. The commissioner shall establish a fee for each application for  
21 an open competitive or promotional examination for a law  
22 enforcement officer or firefighter title. The fee shall not exceed the  
23 cost of developing, procuring and administering the examination,  
24 including the processing of any appeals or reviews associated with the  
25 examination. Persons receiving public assistance benefits pursuant to  
26 P.L.1947, c.156 (C.44:8-107 et seq.), <sup>1</sup>【P.L.1959, c.86 (C.44:10-1 et  
27 seq.) or】<sup>1</sup> P.L.1973, c.256 (C.44:7-85 et seq.)<sup>1</sup>, or P.L.1997 c.38  
28 (C.44:10-55 et seq.)<sup>1</sup> shall not be required to pay this fee if they apply  
29 for an open competitive examination. Receipts derived from  
30 application fees established by this subsection shall be appropriated to  
31 the department for use in developing, procuring and administering law  
32 enforcement officer and firefighter examinations, including the  
33 processing of any appeals or reviews associated with those  
34 examinations.

35 ~~【b.】~~ c. In addition to the ~~【fee】~~fees established in ~~【subsection~~  
36 ~~a.】~~subsections a. and b. of this section, the commissioner shall  
37 establish a \$5 fee for each application for an open competitive or  
38 promotional examination for a position in State service. Persons  
39 receiving public assistance benefits pursuant to P.L.1947, c.156  
40 (C.44:8-107 et seq.), <sup>1</sup>~~【P.L.1959, c.86 (C.44:10-1 et seq.), or】~~<sup>1</sup>  
41 P.L.1973, c.256 (C.44:7-85 et seq.)<sup>1</sup>, or P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-55

**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> Senate SBA committee amendments adopted June 29, 1998.

**S1252 [1R] INVERSO**

3

1 et seq.)<sup>1</sup> shall not be required to pay this fee if they apply for an open  
2 competitive examination. Receipts derived from the application fee  
3 established pursuant to this subsection shall be appropriated annually  
4 to the department for the costs of the displaced workers pool program.  
5 This fee shall not be assessed and collected unless the commissioner  
6 implements a displaced workers pool program. If the displaced  
7 workers pool program is terminated at any time by the commissioner,  
8 the assessment and collection of this additional fee shall also be  
9 terminated.

10 (cf: P.L.1996, c.46, s.1)

11

12 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

**SENATE, No. 1252**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**208th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED JUNE 22, 1998

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator PETER A. INVERSO**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Directs Commissioner of Personnel to establish application fees for law enforcement officer and firefighter exams.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



S1252 INVERSO

2

1 AN ACT concerning application fees for certain examinations and  
2 amending P.L.1992, c.197

3

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

6

7 1. Section 1 of P.L.1992, c.197 (C.11A:4-1.1) is amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 1. a. ~~【The】~~Except as provided in subsection b. of this section  
10 concerning law enforcement officer and firefighter examinations, the  
11 Commissioner of the Department of Personnel shall establish a \$5 fee  
12 for each application for an open competitive or promotional  
13 examination. Persons receiving public assistance benefits pursuant to  
14 P.L.1947, c.156 (C.44:8-107 et seq.), P.L.1959, c.86 (C.44:10-1 et  
15 seq.), or P.L.1973, c.256 (C.44:7-85 et seq.) shall not be required to  
16 pay this fee if they apply for an open competitive examination.  
17 Receipts derived from application fees established by this subsection  
18 shall be appropriated to the department.

19 b. The commissioner shall establish a fee for each application for  
20 an open competitive or promotional examination for a law  
21 enforcement officer or firefighter title. The fee shall not exceed the  
22 cost of developing, procuring and administering the examination,  
23 including the processing of any appeals or reviews associated with the  
24 examination. Persons receiving public assistance benefits pursuant  
25 to P.L.1947, c.156 (C.44:8-107 et seq.), P.L.1959, c.86 (C.44:10-1 et  
26 seq.) or P.L.1973, c.256 (C.44:7-85 et seq.) shall not be required to  
27 pay this fee if they apply for an open competitive examination.  
28 Receipts derived from application fees established by this subsection  
29 shall be appropriated to the department for use in developing,  
30 procuring and administering law enforcement officer and firefighter  
31 examinations, including the processing of any appeals or reviews  
32 associated with those examinations.

33 ~~【b.】~~ c. In addition to the ~~【fee】~~fees established in ~~【subsection~~  
34 ~~a.】~~subsections a. and b. of this section, the commissioner shall  
35 establish a \$5 fee for each application for an open competitive or  
36 promotional examination for a position in State service. Persons  
37 receiving public assistance benefits pursuant to P.L.1947, c.156  
38 (C.44:8-107 et seq.), P.L.1959, c.86 (C.44:10-1 et seq.), or P.L.1973,  
39 c.256 (C.44:7-85 et seq.) shall not be required to pay this fee if they  
40 apply for an open competitive examination. Receipts derived from the  
41 application fee established pursuant to this subsection shall be  
42 appropriated annually to the department for the costs of the displaced  
43 workers pool program. This fee shall not be assessed and collected

**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.**

**S1252 INVERSO**

1 unless the commissioner implements a displaced workers pool  
2 program. If the displaced workers pool program is terminated at any  
3 time by the commissioner, the assessment and collection of this  
4 additional fee shall also be terminated.

5 (cf: P.L.1996, c.46, s.1)

6

7 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

8

9

10 **STATEMENT**

11

12 This bill directs the Commissioner of Personnel to establish an  
13 application fee for an open competitive or promotional examination for  
14 a law enforcement officer or firefighter title. The fee cannot exceed  
15 the cost of developing, procuring and administering the examination,  
16 including the processing of any appeals or reviews associated with the  
17 examination. Persons receiving public assistance benefits will not be  
18 required to pay this fee if they apply for an open competitive  
19 examination. Receipts derived from these application fees will be  
20 appropriated to the department for use in developing, procuring and  
21 administering law enforcement officer and firefighter examinations,  
22 including the processing of any appeals or reviews associated with  
23 those examinations.



# SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **SENATE, No. 1252**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 29, 1998

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 1252.

This bill amends the 1992 law that imposes a fee for taking a civil service examination by establishing special rules to govern the fee for an examination for a law enforcement officer or firefighter title. Under current law, the basic civil service examination fee is \$5; the proceeds of this fee are to be appropriated to the Department of Personnel. With respect to applicants for a position in the State service, an additional \$5 fee is imposed, the proceeds of which are dedicated to funding the costs of the displaced workers pool program. Persons receiving public assistance benefits are not required to pay either of these fees when they apply for an open competitive examination.

This bill provides that the basic fee for taking an examination for a law enforcement officer or firefighter title shall be, rather than \$5, an amount that "shall not exceed the cost of developing, procuring and administering the examination, including the processing of any appeals or reviews associated with the examination." Receipts from this fee are to be appropriated to the department for use in developing, procuring and administering law enforcement officer and firefighter examinations, including the processing of appeals or reviews.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Technical amendments revise the language of the provisions of the bill that exempt persons receiving public assistance from liability for the examination fees covered under the legislation by eliminating references to the law that established New Jersey's AFDC program, now repealed, and incorporating instead references to the "Work First New Jersey Act", P.L.1997, c.38.

#### FISCAL IMPACT

The bill directs that receipts derived from these application fees be appropriated to the Department of Personnel for use in developing, procuring and administering law enforcement officer and firefighter examinations, including the processing of any appeals or reviews

associated with those examinations. The department anticipates that a \$25 fee for the entry level firefighter exam, a \$20 fee for the entry level police exam plus \$5 each for three different entry level police titles, and a \$35 fee for the promotional exams would generate \$1.2 million in FY1999.

## FISCAL NOTE

[First Reprint]

### **SENATE, No. 1252**

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

## **208th LEGISLATURE**

DATED: AUGUST 10, 1998

Senate Bill No. 1252 (1R) of 1998 directs the Commissioner of Personnel to establish an application fee for an open competitive or promotional examination for a law enforcement officer or firefighter title. The fee cannot exceed the cost of developing, procuring and administering the examination, including the processing of any appeals or reviews associated with the examination. Persons receiving public assistance benefits will not be required to pay this fee if they apply for an open competitive examination. Receipts derived from these application fees will be appropriated to the department for use in developing, procuring and administering law enforcement officer and firefighter examinations, including the processing of any appeals or reviews associated with those examinations.

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) notes that N.J.S.A.11A:4-1.1 allows the Department of Personnel to charge a \$5 application fee for open competitive and promotional civil service examinations. The department claims that this fee is inadequate to cover the department's costs of developing and administering the examinations for police and firefighter positions. The department has been using its pilot program authority, N.J.S.A.11A:2-11(i), to charge higher fees for police promotional titles. According to the department, "These fees were developed with the support of the Department's Police Advisory Board, which includes the police unions, and the Department's Local Government Advisory Board. These groups supported the higher fees because the new tests speeded up the examination and hiring process by months."

The OLS notes that the department received \$886,000 in application fee revenue in FY 1996 and \$805,000 in FY 1997. The department estimated it received \$596,000 during FY 1998. The department anticipates collecting an additional \$1,208,000 if this legislation is enacted. To raise an additional \$1,208,000 in revenues for FY 1999, the department has proposed increasing the application

S1252 [1R]

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fee for the entry level firefighters' examination to \$25 and increasing the application fee for the entry level police officers' exam and the promotional exams for police officers and firefighters to \$35 dollars.

This fiscal note has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67.

**ASSEMBLY, No. 2231**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**208th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED JUNE 18, 1998

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman LEONARD LANCE**

**District 23 (Warren, Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Directs Commissioner of Personnel to establish application fees for law enforcement officer and firefighter exams.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning application fees for certain examinations and  
2 amending P.L.1992, c.197.

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6  
7 1. Section 1 of P.L.1992, c.197 (C.11A:4-1.1) is amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 1. a. ~~【The】~~Except as provided in subsection b. of this section  
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11 Commissioner of the Department of Personnel shall establish a \$5 fee  
12 for each application for an open competitive or promotional  
13 examination. Persons receiving public assistance benefits pursuant to  
14 P.L.1947, c.156 (C.44:8-107 et seq.), P.L.1959, c.86 (C.44:10-1 et  
15 seq.), or P.L.1973, c.256 (C.44:7-85 et seq.) shall not be required to  
16 pay this fee if they apply for an open competitive examination.  
17 Receipts derived from application fees established by this subsection  
18 shall be appropriated to the department.

19 b. The commissioner shall establish a fee for each application for  
20 an open competitive or promotional examination for a law  
21 enforcement officer or firefighter title. The fee shall not exceed the  
22 cost of developing, procuring and administering the examination,  
23 including the processing of any appeals or reviews associated with the  
24 examination. Persons receiving public assistance benefits pursuant  
25 to P.L.1947, c.156 (C.44:8-107 et seq.), P.L.1959, c.86 (C.44:10-1 et  
26 seq.) or P.L.1973, c.256 (C.44:7-85 et seq.) shall not be required to  
27 pay this fee if they apply for an open competitive examination.  
28 Receipts derived from application fees established by this subsection  
29 shall be appropriated to the department for use in developing,  
30 procuring and administering law enforcement officer and firefighter  
31 examinations, including the processing of any appeals or reviews  
32 associated with those examinations.

33 ~~【b.】~~ c. In addition to the ~~【fee】~~fees established in ~~【subsection~~  
34 ~~a.】~~subsections a. and b. of this section, the commissioner shall  
35 establish a \$5 fee for each application for an open competitive or  
36 promotional examination for a position in State service. Persons  
37 receiving public assistance benefits pursuant to P.L.1947, c.156  
38 (C.44:8-107 et seq.), P.L.1959, c.86 (C.44:10-1 et seq.), or P.L.1973,  
39 c.256 (C.44:7-85 et seq.) shall not be required to pay this fee if they  
40 apply for an open competitive examination. Receipts derived from the  
41 application fee established pursuant to this subsection shall be  
42 appropriated annually to the department for the costs of the displaced  
43 workers pool program. This fee shall not be assessed and collected

**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.**

1 unless the commissioner implements a displaced workers pool  
2 program. If the displaced workers pool program is terminated at any  
3 time by the commissioner, the assessment and collection of this  
4 additional fee shall also be terminated.

5 (cf: P.L.1996, c.46, s.1)

6

7 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

8

9

10

11

STATEMENT

12

13 This bill directs the Commissioner of Personnel to establish an  
14 application fee for an open competitive or promotional examination for  
15 a law enforcement officer or firefighter title. The fee cannot exceed  
16 the cost of developing, procuring and administering the examination,  
17 including the processing of any appeals or reviews associated with the  
18 examination. Persons receiving public assistance benefits will not be  
19 required to pay this fee if they apply for an open competitive  
20 examination. Receipts derived from these application fees will be  
21 appropriated to the department for use in developing, procuring and  
22 administering law enforcement officer and firefighter examinations,  
23 including the processing of any appeals or reviews associated with  
24 those examinations.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 2231**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 22, 1998

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 2231.

Assembly Bill No. 2231 directs the Commissioner of the Department of Personnel to establish an application fee for an open competitive or promotional examination for a law enforcement officer or firefighter title. The fee cannot exceed the cost of developing, procuring and administering the examination, including the processing of any appeals or reviews associated with the examination. Persons receiving public assistance benefits will not be required to pay this fee if they apply for an open competitive examination.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill directs that receipts derived from these application fees be appropriated to the Department Personnel for use in developing, procuring and administering law enforcement officer and firefighter examinations, including the processing of any appeals or reviews associated with those examinations. The department anticipates that a \$25 fee for the entry level firefighter exam, a \$20 fee for the entry level police exam plus \$5 each for three different entry level police title, and a \$35 fee for the promotional exams would generate \$1.2 million in FY1999.



STATEMENT TO  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 2231**

with Assembly Floor Amendments  
(Proposed By Assemblyman LANCE)

ADOPTED: JUNE 29, 1998

These technical amendments revise the language of the provisions of the bill that exempt persons receiving public assistance from liability for the examination fees covered under the legislation by eliminating references to the law that established New Jersey's AFDC program, now repealed, and incorporating instead references to the "Work First New Jersey Act", P.L.1997, c.38.

## FISCAL NOTE

# ASSEMBLY, No. 2231

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

## 208th LEGISLATURE

DATED: JULY 28, 1998

Assembly Bill No. 2231 of 1998 directs the Commissioner of Personnel to establish an application fee for an open competitive or promotional examination for a law enforcement officer or firefighter title. The fee cannot exceed the cost of developing, procuring and administering the examination, including the processing of any appeals or reviews associated with the examination. Persons receiving public assistance benefits will not be required to pay this fee if they apply for an open competitive examination. Receipts derived from these application fees will be appropriated to the department for use in developing, procuring and administering law enforcement officer and firefighter examinations, including the processing of any appeals or reviews associated with those examinations.

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) notes that N.J.S.A.11A:4-1.1 allows the Department of Personnel to charge a \$5 application fee for open competitive and promotional civil service examinations. The department claims that this fee is inadequate to cover the department's costs of developing and administering the examinations for police and firefighter positions. The department has been using its pilot program authority, N.J.S.A.11A:2-11(i), to charge higher fees for police promotional titles. According to the department, "These fees were developed with the support of the Department's Police Advisory Board, which includes the police unions, and the Department's Local Government Advisory Board. These groups supported the higher fees because the new tests speeded up the examination and hiring process by months."

The OLS notes that the department received \$886,000 in application fee revenue in FY 1996 and \$805,000 in FY 1997. The department estimates it will receive \$596,000 during the current year (FY 1998). The department anticipates collecting an additional \$1,208,000 if this legislation is enacted. To raise an additional \$1,208,000 in revenues for FY 1999 the department has proposed increasing the application fee for the entry level firefighters' examination to \$25 and increasing the application fee for the entry level police officers' exam and the promotional exams for police officers and firefighters to \$35 dollars.

This fiscal note has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67.

*Office of the Governor*  
**NEWS RELEASE**

PO BOX 004  
TRENTON, NJ 08625

CONTACT: Jayne O'Connor  
Wendi Patella  
609-777-2600

RELEASE: July 31, 1998

Gov. Christie Whitman today signed the following pieces of legislation:

**S-953**, sponsored by Senator Norman Robertson (R- Essex/Passaic) and Assemblywoman Marion Crecco (R-Essex/Passaic), makes certain members of the Police and Firemen's Retirement System eligible for disability retirement benefits if the officer dies before applying for retirement. The bill will benefit the widow of Robert Stengo, a policeman with 18 years of service in Bloomfield, who died of lung failure due to a rare medical condition. The bill will allow his widow to receive disability retirement benefits, rather than the ordinary death benefits, which are lower.

**S-402**, sponsored by Senator Robert Littell (R- Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris) and Assembly Members Guy Gregg and Scott Garrett (both R- Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris), would expand the authority of fire police, who are members of volunteer companies, to control traffic and crowds at public events. The bill was modified by the Governor to clarify that duly authorized police officers would have supervisory authority over fire police in crowd control situations.

**S-1252**, sponsored by Senator Peter Inverso (R- Mercer/Middlesex) and Assembly Member Leonard Lance (R- Warren/Hunterdon/Mercer), directs the Commissioner of Personnel to establish application fees for law enforcement officer and firefighter exams. The bill increases the application fee for open competitive and promotional examinations from \$5 to the actual cost of administering and scoring the test.