# 54A:9-8.4

## LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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**LAWS OF**: 2005 **CHAPTER**: 125

NJSA: 54A:9-8.4 (Authorizes a multistate personal income tax refund set-off program)

BILL NO: S3004 (Substituted for A4409)

**SPONSOR(S)**: Bryant and Cryan

DATE INTRODUCED: June 27, 2005

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY:

**SENATE** Budget and Appropriations

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: June 30, 2005

**SENATE:** June 30, 2005

**DATE OF APPROVAL:** July 2, 2005

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (Original version of bill enacted)

S3004

**SPONSOR'S STATEMENT**: (Begins on page 4 of original bill) Yes

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:** ASSEMBLY: No

SENATE: Yes

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

A4409

**SPONSOR'S STATEMENT**: (Begins on page 4 of original bill) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: <u>ASSEMBLY</u>: <u>Yes</u>

SENATE: No

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: No

#### **FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:**

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REPORTS: No
HEARINGS: No
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: No

IS 7/6/07

# P.L. 2005, CHAPTER 125, *approved July 2, 2005* Senate, No. 3004

**AN ACT** authorizing a multistate personal income tax refund set-off program, supplementing Title 54A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

## 1. a. As used in this section:

"Taxpayer" means any person identified by a claimant state, under this section, as owing taxes to that claimant state, including the spouse of the taxpayer if the spouse filed a joint return with the taxpayer for the tax year for which tax is owed.

"Claimant state" means any other state of the United States, the City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, New York City, New York, or the District of Columbia that extends a like comity for the collection of tax owed to this State.

"Taxes" means any amount of tax imposed on the income of an individual or an estate and paid by the individual or estate under the laws of the claimant state, including any additions to tax for penalties and interest, which is finally due and payable to the claimant state, and with respect to which any administrative or judicial remedies, or both, have been exhausted or have lapsed, and which is legally enforceable under the laws of the claimant state, whether or not there is an outstanding judgment for such sum.

"Refund" means any taxpayer's claim to repayment of an overpayment of gross income tax determined by this State to be owed to the taxpayer by this State, after the overpayment has been applied to any other debt of the taxpayer to this State.

"Tax officer" means a unit or official of a claimant state, or the duly authorized agent of such unit or official, charged with the imposition, assessment or collection of taxes of that state.

b. Upon the request and certification of the tax officer of a claimant state, the director may withhold all or a portion of any refund to which such taxpayer would otherwise be entitled and pay a withheld amount to the claimant state, in accordance with the provisions of this section. The director shall not withhold a refund unless the laws of the claimant state: allow the director to certify that an individual or an estate owes gross income tax, including any additions to tax for penalties and interest, to this State and to request that the tax officer of the claimant state withhold all or a portion of any claim to repayment of an overpayment of tax imposed on the income of an individual or an estate and paid by the individual or estate under the laws of the claimant state to which such person would otherwise be entitled and provide for the payment of such withheld amount to this State.

c. A certification from a claimant state shall include the full name

and address of the taxpayer; the taxpayer's Social Security number or federal employer identification number; the amount of individual income tax owed to that state, including a detailed statement for each taxable period showing tax, interest and penalty; and a statement that any administrative or judicial remedies, or both, have been exhausted or have lapsed and that the amount of individual income tax is legally enforceable under the laws of that state.

- d. Upon receipt by the director of the required certification, the director shall notify the taxpayer: that the director received a request to withhold the refund; that the taxpayer has the right to protest the withholding of the refund; that failure to file a protest in accordance with subsection e. of this section shall constitute a waiver of any demand against this State on account of the withheld amount; and that the withheld amount will be paid to the claimant state. The notice shall include a copy of the certification by the tax officer of the claimant state. Ninety-one days after the date on which it is mailed, a notice under this subsection shall be final, except only for such amounts as to which the taxpayer has filed a written protest with the director, as provided in subsection e. of this section.
- e. A taxpayer notified in accordance with subsection d. of this section may, on or before the ninetieth day after the mailing of the notice by the director, protest the withholding of a refund, by filing with the director a written protest in which the taxpayer shall set forth the grounds on which the protest is based. If a timely protest is filed, the director shall impound the claimed amount of the refund and send a copy of the protest to the claimant state for determination of the protest on its merits in accordance with the laws of that state. The director shall pay the impounded amount to the taxpayer, if the claimant state fails, within 45 days of the director mailing the copy of the protest to the claimant state, to certify that the claimant state has reviewed the grounds on which the protest is based and to recertify the amount of taxes which is finally due and payable to the claimant state.
- f. Subject to the provisions of subsections d. and e. of this section, the director shall: pay the claimant state the entire amount withheld or the amount certified, whichever is less; pay any refund in excess of the certified amount to the taxpayer; and, if the amount certified exceeds the amount withheld, withhold amounts from subsequent refunds due to the taxpayer, provided that claimant state agrees to withhold subsequent claims to repayment of an overpayment of tax imposed on the income of an individual or an estate and paid by the individual or estate under the laws of the claimant state due to persons certified by the director as owing gross income tax to this State.
- g. For any refund amount paid to a claimant state under this section, interest as provided under section 7 of P.L.1992, c.175 (C.54:49-15.1) or subsection (f) of N.J.S.54A:9-7 shall not be allowed or paid to the claimant state, the taxpayer, or any other person or

1 entity.

 h. The director may enter into agreements with the tax officers of claimant states relating to procedures and methods to be employed by a claimant state with respect to: the operation of this section; safeguards against the disclosure or inappropriate use of any tax record information that identifies, directly or indirectly, a particular taxpayer; and a minimum amount of taxes owed by a taxpayer to a claimant state, so that, if a taxpayer owes less than that amount to such claimant state, the claimant state will not avail itself of the provisions of this section with respect to that taxpayer.

- i. The collection procedures prescribed by this section shall not be construed as a substitute for any other remedy available by law to the director.
- 15 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

## **STATEMENT**

This bill authorizes a multistate reciprocal refund set-off program, which allows the Director of the Division of Taxation to withhold another state's tax claims from New Jersey gross income tax refunds if the other state withholds New Jersey gross income tax claims from its personal income tax refunds.

The bill allows the director to withhold some or all of a gross income tax refunds to which a New Jersey taxpayer would otherwise be entitled and pay a withheld amount to the claimant state. The director is only authorized to do this if the other state allows the director to make parallel claims against the other state's refunds to its taxpayers.

The bill specifies the contents of the claim from another state and requires the other state to include a statement that any administrative or judicial remedies, or both, have been exhausted or have lapsed and that the amount of individual income tax is legally enforceable under the laws of that state.

On receipt by the director of a proper claim, the bill requires the director to notify the taxpayer of the claim and of the taxpayer's right of protest. Failure to file a protest within 90 days after notice constitutes a waiver by the taxpayer, and the withheld amount will be paid to the claimant state. If a taxpayer files a written protest within 90 days, the bill directs the director to impound the claimed amount of the refund and send a copy of the protest to the claimant state for determination of the protest on its merits in accordance with the laws of that state. The bill requires the director to pay the impounded amount to the taxpayer, if the claimant state fails, within 45 days of the director mailing the copy of the protest to the claimant state, to

certify that the claimant state has reviewed the grounds on which the protest is based and to recertify the amount of taxes owe to the claimant state.

The bill requires the director to pay the claimant state the lesser of the entire amount withheld or the amount certified, and pay any refund in excess of the certified amount to the taxpayer; and, if the amount certified exceeds the amount withheld, withhold amounts from subsequent refunds due to the taxpayer. Provided however, the director will on do this if the other state agrees to withhold subsequent refunds due to persons certified by the director as owing gross income tax to New Jersey.

The bill authorizes the director to enter into agreements with the tax officers of other states relating to procedures for these set-offs, safeguards against the disclosure or inappropriate use of any tax record information, and minimum amount of taxes owed that will be subject to these procedures.

21 Authorizes a multistate personal income tax refund set-off program.

# SENATE, No. 3004

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY 211th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 27, 2005

Sponsored by: Senator WAYNE R. BRYANT District 5 (Camden and Gloucester) Assemblyman JOSEPH CRYAN District 20 (Union)

## **SYNOPSIS**

Authorizes a multistate personal income tax refund set-off program.

# **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 7/1/2005)

**AN ACT** authorizing a multistate personal income tax refund set-off program, supplementing Title 54A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

### 1. a. As used in this section:

"Taxpayer" means any person identified by a claimant state, under this section, as owing taxes to that claimant state, including the spouse of the taxpayer if the spouse filed a joint return with the taxpayer for the tax year for which tax is owed.

"Claimant state" means any other state of the United States, the City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, New York City, New York, or the District of Columbia that extends a like comity for the collection of tax owed to this State.

"Taxes" means any amount of tax imposed on the income of an individual or an estate and paid by the individual or estate under the laws of the claimant state, including any additions to tax for penalties and interest, which is finally due and payable to the claimant state, and with respect to which any administrative or judicial remedies, or both, have been exhausted or have lapsed, and which is legally enforceable under the laws of the claimant state, whether or not there is an outstanding judgment for such sum.

"Refund" means any taxpayer's claim to repayment of an overpayment of gross income tax determined by this State to be owed to the taxpayer by this State, after the overpayment has been applied to any other debt of the taxpayer to this State.

"Tax officer" means a unit or official of a claimant state, or the duly authorized agent of such unit or official, charged with the imposition, assessment or collection of taxes of that state.

- b. Upon the request and certification of the tax officer of a claimant state, the director may withhold all or a portion of any refund to which such taxpayer would otherwise be entitled and pay a withheld amount to the claimant state, in accordance with the provisions of this section. The director shall not withhold a refund unless the laws of the claimant state: allow the director to certify that an individual or an estate owes gross income tax, including any additions to tax for penalties and interest, to this State and to request that the tax officer of the claimant state withhold all or a portion of any claim to repayment of an overpayment of tax imposed on the income of an individual or an estate and paid by the individual or estate under the laws of the claimant state to which such person would otherwise be entitled and provide for the payment of such withheld amount to this State.
- c. A certification from a claimant state shall include the full name and address of the taxpayer; the taxpayer's Social Security number or

federal employer identification number; the amount of individual income tax owed to that state, including a detailed statement for each taxable period showing tax, interest and penalty; and a statement that any administrative or judicial remedies, or both, have been exhausted or have lapsed and that the amount of individual income tax is legally enforceable under the laws of that state.

- d. Upon receipt by the director of the required certification, the director shall notify the taxpayer: that the director received a request to withhold the refund; that the taxpayer has the right to protest the withholding of the refund; that failure to file a protest in accordance with subsection e. of this section shall constitute a waiver of any demand against this State on account of the withheld amount; and that the withheld amount will be paid to the claimant state. The notice shall include a copy of the certification by the tax officer of the claimant state. Ninety-one days after the date on which it is mailed, a notice under this subsection shall be final, except only for such amounts as to which the taxpayer has filed a written protest with the director, as provided in subsection e. of this section.
- e. A taxpayer notified in accordance with subsection d. of this section may, on or before the ninetieth day after the mailing of the notice by the director, protest the withholding of a refund, by filing with the director a written protest in which the taxpayer shall set forth the grounds on which the protest is based. If a timely protest is filed, the director shall impound the claimed amount of the refund and send a copy of the protest to the claimant state for determination of the protest on its merits in accordance with the laws of that state. The director shall pay the impounded amount to the taxpayer, if the claimant state fails, within 45 days of the director mailing the copy of the protest to the claimant state, to certify that the claimant state has reviewed the grounds on which the protest is based and to recertify the amount of taxes which is finally due and payable to the claimant state.
- f. Subject to the provisions of subsections d. and e. of this section, the director shall: pay the claimant state the entire amount withheld or the amount certified, whichever is less; pay any refund in excess of the certified amount to the taxpayer; and, if the amount certified exceeds the amount withheld, withhold amounts from subsequent refunds due to the taxpayer, provided that claimant state agrees to withhold subsequent claims to repayment of an overpayment of tax imposed on the income of an individual or an estate and paid by the individual or estate under the laws of the claimant state due to persons certified by the director as owing gross income tax to this State.
- g. For any refund amount paid to a claimant state under this section, interest as provided under section 7 of P.L.1992, c.175 (C.54:49-15.1) or subsection (f) of N.J.S.54A:9-7 shall not be allowed or paid to the claimant state, the taxpayer, or any other person or entity.

## S3004 BRYANT

- h. The director may enter into agreements with the tax officers of claimant states relating to procedures and methods to be employed by a claimant state with respect to: the operation of this section; safeguards against the disclosure or inappropriate use of any tax record information that identifies, directly or indirectly, a particular taxpayer; and a minimum amount of taxes owed by a taxpayer to a claimant state, so that, if a taxpayer owes less than that amount to such claimant state, the claimant state will not avail itself of the provisions of this section with respect to that taxpayer.
  - i. The collection procedures prescribed by this section shall not be construed as a substitute for any other remedy available by law to the director.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

#### **STATEMENT**

This bill authorizes a multistate reciprocal refund set-off program, which allows the Director of the Division of Taxation to withhold another state's tax claims from New Jersey gross income tax refunds if the other state withholds New Jersey gross income tax claims from its personal income tax refunds.

The bill allows the director to withhold some or all of a gross income tax refunds to which a New Jersey taxpayer would otherwise be entitled and pay a withheld amount to the claimant state. The director is only authorized to do this if the other state allows the director to make parallel claims against the other state's refunds to its taxpayers.

The bill specifies the contents of the claim from another state and requires the other state to include a statement that any administrative or judicial remedies, or both, have been exhausted or have lapsed and that the amount of individual income tax is legally enforceable under the laws of that state.

On receipt by the director of a proper claim, the bill requires the director to notify the taxpayer of the claim and of the taxpayer's right of protest. Failure to file a protest within 90 days after notice constitutes a waiver by the taxpayer, and the withheld amount will be paid to the claimant state. If a taxpayer files a written protest within 90 days, the bill directs the director to impound the claimed amount of the refund and send a copy of the protest to the claimant state for determination of the protest on its merits in accordance with the laws of that state. The bill requires the director to pay the impounded amount to the taxpayer, if the claimant state fails, within 45 days of the director mailing the copy of the protest to the claimant state, to certify that the claimant state has reviewed the grounds on which the

## S3004 BRYANT

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1 protest is based and to recertify the amount of taxes owe to the 2 claimant state.

3 The bill requires the director to pay the claimant state the lesser of 4 the entire amount withheld or the amount certified, and pay any refund 5 in excess of the certified amount to the taxpayer; and, if the amount certified exceeds the amount withheld, withhold amounts from 6 subsequent refunds due to the taxpayer. Provided however, the 7 director will on do this if the other state agrees to withhold subsequent 8 9 refunds due to persons certified by the director as owing gross income 10 tax to New Jersey.

The bill authorizes the director to enter into agreements with the tax officers of other states relating to procedures for these set-offs, safeguards against the disclosure or inappropriate use of any tax record information, and minimum amount of taxes owed that will be subject to these procedures.

# SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

# STATEMENT TO

# **SENATE, No. 3004**

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

**DATED: JUNE 29, 2005** 

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 3004.

This bill authorizes a multistate reciprocal refund set-off program, which allows the Director of the Division of Taxation to withhold another state's tax claims from New Jersey gross income tax refunds if the other state withholds New Jersey gross income tax claims from its personal income tax refunds.

The bill allows the director to withhold some or all of a gross income tax refunds to which a New Jersey taxpayer would otherwise be entitled and pay a withheld amount to the claimant state. The director is only authorized to do this if the other state allows the director to make parallel claims against the other state's refunds to its taxpayers.

The bill specifies the contents of the claim from another state and requires the other state to include a statement that any administrative or judicial remedies, or both, have been exhausted or have lapsed and that the amount of individual income tax is legally enforceable under the laws of that state.

On receipt by the director of a proper claim, the bill requires the director to notify the taxpayer of the claim and of the taxpayer's right of protest. Failure to file a protest within 90 days after notice constitutes a waiver by the taxpayer, and the withheld amount will be paid to the claimant state. If a taxpayer files a written protest within 90 days, the bill directs the director to impound the claimed amount of the refund and send a copy of the protest to the claimant state for determination of the protest on its merits in accordance with the laws of that state. The bill requires the director to pay the impounded amount to the taxpayer, if the claimant state fails, within 45 days of the director mailing the copy of the protest to the claimant state, to certify that the claimant state has reviewed the grounds on which the protest is based and to recertify the amount of taxes owe to the claimant state.

The bill requires the director to pay the claimant state the lesser of the entire amount withheld or the amount certified, and pay any refund in excess of the certified amount to the taxpayer; and, if the amount certified exceeds the amount withheld, withhold amounts from subsequent refunds due to the taxpayer. Provided however, the director will on do this if the other state agrees to withhold subsequent refunds due to persons certified by the director as owing gross income tax to New Jersey.

The bill authorizes the director to enter into agreements with the tax officers of other states relating to procedures for these set-offs, safeguards against the disclosure or inappropriate use of any tax record information, and minimum amount of taxes owed that will be subject to these procedures.

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The Office of Legislative Services has no information with which to quantify the fiscal impact of this bill. Any potential unpaid tax liabilities that may be collected are contingent on other states' adopting similar legislation, and entering into agreements with New Jersey concerning cooperative personal income tax refund set-off programs.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 4409

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY 211th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 27, 2005

Sponsored by: Assemblyman JOSEPH CRYAN District 20 (Union)

## **SYNOPSIS**

Authorizes a multistate personal income tax refund set-off program.

## **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**AN ACT** authorizing a multistate personal income tax refund set-off program, supplementing Title 54A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

### 1. a. As used in this section:

"Taxpayer" means any person identified by a claimant state, under this section, as owing taxes to that claimant state, including the spouse of the taxpayer if the spouse filed a joint return with the taxpayer for the tax year for which tax is owed.

"Claimant state" means any other state of the United States, the City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, New York City, New York, or the District of Columbia that extends a like comity for the collection of tax owed to this State.

"Taxes" means any amount of tax imposed on the income of an individual or an estate and paid by the individual or estate under the laws of the claimant state, including any additions to tax for penalties and interest, which is finally due and payable to the claimant state, and with respect to which any administrative or judicial remedies, or both, have been exhausted or have lapsed, and which is legally enforceable under the laws of the claimant state, whether or not there is an outstanding judgment for such sum.

"Refund" means any taxpayer's claim to repayment of an overpayment of gross income tax determined by this State to be owed to the taxpayer by this State, after the overpayment has been applied to any other debt of the taxpayer to this State.

"Tax officer" means a unit or official of a claimant state, or the duly authorized agent of such unit or official, charged with the imposition, assessment or collection of taxes of that state.

b. Upon the request and certification of the tax officer of a claimant state, the director may withhold all or a portion of any refund to which such taxpayer would otherwise be entitled and pay a withheld amount to the claimant state, in accordance with the provisions of this section. The director shall not withhold a refund unless the laws of the claimant state: allow the director to certify that an individual or an estate owes gross income tax, including any additions to tax for penalties and interest, to this State and to request that the tax officer of the claimant state withhold all or a portion of any claim to repayment of an overpayment of tax imposed on the income of an individual or an estate and paid by the individual or estate under the laws of the claimant state to which such person would otherwise be entitled and provide for the payment of such withheld amount to this State.

c. A certification from a claimant state shall include the full name and address of the taxpayer; the taxpayer's Social Security number or

1 federal employer identification number; the amount of individual 2 income tax owed to that state, including a detailed statement for each 3 taxable period showing tax, interest and penalty; and a statement that 4 any administrative or judicial remedies, or both, have been exhausted or have lapsed and that the amount of individual income tax is legally 5 6 enforceable under the laws of that state.

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- d. Upon receipt by the director of the required certification, the director shall notify the taxpayer: that the director received a request to withhold the refund; that the taxpayer has the right to protest the withholding of the refund; that failure to file a protest in accordance with subsection e. of this section shall constitute a waiver of any demand against this State on account of the withheld amount; and that the withheld amount will be paid to the claimant state. The notice shall include a copy of the certification by the tax officer of the claimant state. Ninety-one days after the date on which it is mailed, a notice under this subsection shall be final, except only for such amounts as to which the taxpayer has filed a written protest with the director, as provided in subsection e. of this section.
- e. A taxpayer notified in accordance with subsection d. of this section may, on or before the ninetieth day after the mailing of the notice by the director, protest the withholding of a refund, by filing with the director a written protest in which the taxpayer shall set forth the grounds on which the protest is based. If a timely protest is filed, the director shall impound the claimed amount of the refund and send a copy of the protest to the claimant state for determination of the protest on its merits in accordance with the laws of that state. The director shall pay the impounded amount to the taxpayer, if the claimant state fails, within 45 days of the director mailing the copy of the protest to the claimant state, to certify that the claimant state has reviewed the grounds on which the protest is based and to recertify the amount of taxes which is finally due and payable to the claimant state.
- f. Subject to the provisions of subsections d. and e. of this section, the director shall: pay the claimant state the entire amount withheld or the amount certified, whichever is less; pay any refund in excess of the certified amount to the taxpayer; and, if the amount certified exceeds the amount withheld, withhold amounts from subsequent refunds due to the taxpayer, provided that claimant state agrees to withhold subsequent claims to repayment of an overpayment of tax imposed on the income of an individual or an estate and paid by the individual or estate under the laws of the claimant state due to persons certified by the director as owing gross income tax to this State.
- 42 g. For any refund amount paid to a claimant state under this 43 section, interest as provided under section 7 of P.L.1992, c.175 44 (C.54:49-15.1) or subsection (f) of N.J.S.54A:9-7 shall not be allowed or paid to the claimant state, the taxpayer, or any other person or 46 entity.

## A4409 CRYAN

- h. The director may enter into agreements with the tax officers of claimant states relating to procedures and methods to be employed by a claimant state with respect to: the operation of this section; safeguards against the disclosure or inappropriate use of any tax record information that identifies, directly or indirectly, a particular taxpayer; and a minimum amount of taxes owed by a taxpayer to a claimant state, so that, if a taxpayer owes less than that amount to such claimant state, the claimant state will not avail itself of the provisions of this section with respect to that taxpayer.
  - i. The collection procedures prescribed by this section shall not be construed as a substitute for any other remedy available by law to the director.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

#### **STATEMENT**

This bill authorizes a multistate reciprocal refund set-off program, which allows the Director of the Division of Taxation to withhold another state's tax claims from New Jersey gross income tax refunds if the other state withholds New Jersey gross income tax claims from its personal income tax refunds.

The bill allows the director to withhold some or all of a gross income tax refunds to which a New Jersey taxpayer would otherwise be entitled and pay a withheld amount to the claimant state. The director is only authorized to do this if the other state allows the director to make parallel claims against the other state's refunds to its taxpayers.

The bill specifies the contents of the claim from another state and requires the other state to include a statement that any administrative or judicial remedies, or both, have been exhausted or have lapsed and that the amount of individual income tax is legally enforceable under the laws of that state.

On receipt by the director of a proper claim, the bill requires the director to notify the taxpayer of the claim and of the taxpayer's right of protest. Failure to file a protest within 90 days after notice constitutes a waiver by the taxpayer, and the withheld amount will be paid to the claimant state. If a taxpayer files a written protest within 90 days, the bill directs the director to impound the claimed amount of the refund and send a copy of the protest to the claimant state for determination of the protest on its merits in accordance with the laws of that state. The bill requires the director to pay the impounded amount to the taxpayer, if the claimant state fails, within 45 days of the director mailing the copy of the protest to the claimant state, to certify that the claimant state has reviewed the grounds on which the

## **A4409** CRYAN

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1 protest is based and to recertify the amount of taxes owe to the 2 claimant state.

3 The bill requires the director to pay the claimant state the lesser of 4 the entire amount withheld or the amount certified, and pay any refund 5 in excess of the certified amount to the taxpayer; and, if the amount certified exceeds the amount withheld, withhold amounts from 6 subsequent refunds due to the taxpayer. Provided however, the 7 director will on do this if the other state agrees to withhold subsequent 8 9 refunds due to persons certified by the director as owing gross income 10 tax to New Jersey.

The bill authorizes the director to enter into agreements with the tax officers of other states relating to procedures for these set-offs, safeguards against the disclosure or inappropriate use of any tax record information, and minimum amount of taxes owed that will be subject to these procedures.

# ASSEMBLY BUDGET COMMITTEE

# STATEMENT TO

# ASSEMBLY, No. 4409

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

**DATED: JUNE 29, 2005** 

The Assembly Budget Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4409.

Assembly Bill No. 4409 authorizes a multistate reciprocal refund set-off program, which allows the Director of the Division of Taxation to withhold another state's tax claims from New Jersey gross income tax refunds if the other state withholds New Jersey gross income tax claims from its personal income tax refunds.

The bill allows the director to withhold some or all of a gross income tax refunds to which a New Jersey taxpayer would otherwise be entitled and pay a withheld amount to the claimant state. The director is only authorized to do this if the other state allows the director to make parallel claims against the other state's refunds to its taxpayers.

The bill specifies the contents of the claim from another state and requires the other state to include a statement that any administrative or judicial remedies, or both, have been exhausted or have lapsed and that the amount of individual income tax is legally enforceable under the laws of that state.

On receipt by the director of a proper claim, the bill requires the director to notify the taxpayer of the claim and of the taxpayer's right of protest. Failure to file a protest within 90 days after notice constitutes a waiver by the taxpayer, and the withheld amount will be paid to the claimant state. If a taxpayer files a written protest within 90 days, the bill directs the director to impound the claimed amount of the refund and send a copy of the protest to the claimant state for determination of the protest on its merits in accordance with the laws of that state. The bill requires the director to pay the impounded amount to the taxpayer, if the claimant state fails, within 45 days of the director mailing the copy of the protest to the claimant state, to certify that the claimant state has reviewed the grounds on which the protest is based and to recertify the amount of taxes owe to the claimant state.

The bill requires the director to pay the claimant state the lesser of the entire amount withheld or the amount certified, and pay any refund in excess of the certified amount to the taxpayer; and, if the amount certified exceeds the amount withheld, withhold amounts from subsequent refunds due to the taxpayer. Provided however, the director will on do this if the other state agrees to withhold subsequent refunds due to persons certified by the director as owing gross income tax to New Jersey.

The bill authorizes the director to enter into agreements with the tax officers of other states relating to procedures for these set-offs, safeguards against the disclosure or inappropriate use of any tax record information, and minimum amount of taxes owed that will be subject to these procedures.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**:

Informal estimates by the Executive Branch indicate that the increased revenues under the bill could exceed \$5 million annually.