

Appropriation

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2021 **CHAPTER:** 78

NJSA: Appropriation (Requires transfer of certain escheated civil forfeiture funds from Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to General Fund for appropriation to county Prosecutor's offices.)

BILL NO: A4788 (Substituted for S3044 (1R))

SPONSOR(S) Pintor Marin, Eliana and others

DATE INTRODUCED: 10/8/2020

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** Appropriations
SENATE: Budget & Appropriations

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE: **ASSEMBLY:** 3/1/2021
SENATE: 2/19/2021

DATE OF APPROVAL: 5/5/2021

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (Second Reprint enacted) Yes

A4788

INTRODUCED BILL (INCLUDES SPONSOR'S STATEMENT): 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: Yes

S3044 (1R)

INTRODUCED BILL (INCLUDES SPONSOR'S STATEMENT): Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** No

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: Yes

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:

Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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REPORTS:

No

HEARINGS:

No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:

No

P.L. 2021, CHAPTER 78, *approved May 5, 2021*
Assembly, No. 4788 (*Second Reprint*)

1 A SUPPLEMENT to ¹**[**the Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations act,
2 P.L.2019, c.150**]** “An Act making appropriations for the support of
3 the State Government and the several public purposes for the fiscal
4 year ending June 30, 2021 and regulating the disbursement
5 thereof,” approved September 29, 2020 (P.L.2020, c.97)¹.
6

7 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and the General Assembly of the
8 State of New Jersey:
9

10 1. The following language provision is added to the General
11 Provisions of ¹**[**P.L.2019, c.150**]** P.L.2020, c.97¹, the annual State
12 appropriations act for Fiscal Year ¹**[**2020, as amended and
13 supplemented by P.L.2020, c.43**]** 2021¹:

14 ¹**[**105.**]** 102.¹ Notwithstanding any provision of law or
15 regulation to the contrary, in addition to any other amounts
16 transferred from the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to the
17 General Fund and appropriated herein, there is appropriated from
18 the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund for transfer to the
19 General Fund, an amount ²**[**not to exceed \$2,400,000 comprising
20 unclaimed assets**]** equal to the amount² seized by ²**[**the County of
21 Essex**]** each county² prior to January 1, 2017 pursuant to
22 N.J.S.2C:64-1 et seq., and deposited in the Unclaimed Personal
23 Property Trust Fund on or after July 1, 2020, which amount is
24 appropriated subject to the approval of the Director of the Division
25 of Budget and Accounting to the ²**[**Office of the Essex County
26 Prosecutor**]** offices of the county prosecutors² for law enforcement
27 purposes including, but not limited to, the implementation of a
28 county-wide police body-worn camera and video storage program.
29 ²The amount appropriated to each county shall be equal to the
30 amount seized by that county, except that no amount appropriated
31 to any county shall exceed \$2,400,000. The State Treasurer shall
32 transmit to the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee and
33 the Assembly Appropriations Committee a written report, not later
34 than June 1, 2021, detailing the amount appropriated to each county
35 prosecutor and the purposes for which the funds were expended.²
36

37 ¹**[**2. Section 105 of P.L.2019, c.150 is amended to read as
38 follows:

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:

¹Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted October 26, 2020.

²Senate SBA committee amendments adopted February 11, 2021.

1 **【105.】** 106. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.
2 (cf: P.L.2020, c.43, s.9)**】**¹

3

4 2. ¹Section 102 of P.L.2020, c.97 is amended to read as
5 follows:

6 **【102】** 103. This act shall take effect October 1, 2020.¹
7 (cf: P.L.2020, c.97, s.102)

8

9 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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14 Requires transfer of certain escheated civil forfeiture funds from
15 Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to General Fund for
16 appropriation to county prosecutors' offices.

ASSEMBLY, No. 4788

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 8, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ELIANA PINTOR MARIN

District 29 (Essex)

SYNOPSIS

Permits transfer of escheated civil forfeiture funds from Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to General Fund for appropriation to Essex County Prosecutor's Office.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 A SUPPLEMENT to the Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations act,
2 P.L.2019, c.150.

3

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

6

7 1. The following language provision is added to the General
8 Provisions of P.L.2019, c.150, the annual State appropriations act
9 for Fiscal Year 2020, as amended and supplemented by P.L.2020,
10 c.43:

11 105. Notwithstanding any provision of law or regulation to the
12 contrary, in addition to any other amounts transferred from the
13 Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to the General Fund and
14 appropriated herein, there is appropriated from the Unclaimed
15 Personal Property Trust Fund for transfer to the General Fund, an
16 amount not to exceed \$2,400,000 comprising unclaimed assets
17 seized by the County of Essex prior to January 1, 2017 pursuant to
18 N.J.S.2C:64-1 et seq., and deposited in the Unclaimed Personal
19 Property Trust Fund on or after July 1, 2020, which amount is
20 appropriated subject to the approval of the Director of the Division
21 of Budget and Accounting to the Office of the Essex County
22 Prosecutor for law enforcement purposes including, but not limited
23 to, the implementation of a county-wide police body-worn camera
24 and video storage program.

25

26 2. Section 105 of P.L.2019, c.150 is amended to read as
27 follows:

28 **[105.]** 106. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.
29 (cf: P.L.2020, c.43, s.9)

30

31 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

32

33

34

STATEMENT

35

36 This bill supplements P.L.2019, c.105, the Fiscal Year 2020
37 annual State appropriations act, to add a General Provision
38 transferring unclaimed assets totaling \$2.4 million from the
39 Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to the General Fund for
40 appropriation to the Essex County Prosecutor's Office. The
41 proposed General Provision requires the transferred funds for law
42 enforcement costs, including, but not limited to, the funding of a
43 county-wide police body-worn camera and video storage program.

44 The bill transfers assets seized by the County of Essex pursuant
45 to the State's civil forfeiture laws (N.J.S.2C:64-1 et seq.). These

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 assets were held by the Essex County Prosecutor for three years
2 following their seizure and escheated to the State's Unclaimed
3 Personal Property Trust Fund, in accordance with standard
4 operating procedures issued by the Attorney General regarding
5 forfeiture program administration.

6 The unclaimed assets authorized for transfer under the bill were
7 seized by the County of Essex prior to January 1, 2017 and
8 escheated to the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund on or
9 after July 1, 2020.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 4788

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 26, 2020

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly 4788 with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill supplements P.L.2020, c.97 the Fiscal Year 2021 annual State appropriations act, to add a General Provision transferring unclaimed assets totaling \$2.4 million from the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to the General Fund for appropriation to the Essex County Prosecutor's Office. The proposed General Provision requires the transferred funds to pay for law enforcement costs, including, but not limited to, the funding of a county-wide police body-worn camera and video storage program.

The bill transfers assets seized by the County of Essex pursuant to the State's civil forfeiture laws (N.J.S.2C:64-1 et seq.). These assets were held by the Essex County Prosecutor for three years following their seizure and escheated to the State's Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund, in accordance with standard operating procedures issued by the Attorney General regarding forfeiture program administration.

The unclaimed assets authorized for transfer under the bill were seized by the County of Essex prior to January 1, 2017 and escheated to the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund on or after July 1, 2020.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amendments update the bill to reflect the enactment of P.L.2020, c.97, the Fiscal Year 2021 appropriations act.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill is not certified as requiring a fiscal note.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 4788

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 11, 2021

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4788 (1R), with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill supplements P.L.2020, c.97, the Fiscal Year 2021 annual State appropriations act, to add a general provision transferring unclaimed assets from the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to the General Fund for appropriation to the offices of the 21 county prosecutors.

Each county would receive an amount equal to the amount of unclaimed assets seized by each county prior to January 1, 2017, pursuant to the State's civil forfeiture laws (N.J.S.2C:64-1 et seq.), and escheated to the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund on or after July 1, 2020.

The proposed general provision requires the funds distributed to each county to be used for law enforcement costs, including, but not limited to, the funding of a county-wide police body-worn camera and video storage program. The amount transferred to any county cannot exceed \$2.4 million.

These assets were held by each county for three years following their seizure and escheated to the State's Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund, in accordance with standard operating procedures issued by the Attorney General regarding forfeiture program administration.

The bill also requires the State Treasurer to transmit a report to the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee and the Assembly Appropriations Committee detailing the amount transferred to each county and the purposes for which funds were expended.

As reported, this bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 3044, as also amended and reported by the committee on this date.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amendments:

- require the transfer of applicable unclaimed assets to all county prosecutors' offices;
- provide that the amount transferred to any single county cannot exceed \$2.4 million; and

- require the State Treasurer to provide a report to the Legislature's appropriations committees detailing the amount transferred to each county and the purposes for which funds were expended;

FISCAL IMPACT:

Fiscal information on this bill is not currently available.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[Second Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 4788

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

DATED: MARCH 4, 2021

SUMMARY

- Synopsis:** Requires transfer of certain escheated civil forfeiture funds from Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to General Fund for appropriation to county prosecutors' offices.
- Type of Impact:** Indeterminate increase in State expenditures and indeterminate increase in county revenues.
- Agencies Affected:** Department of Law and Public Safety, Department of the Treasury, and counties.

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	<u>Fiscal Year 2021</u>
State Cost Increase	At least \$2.4 million, but not more than \$50.4 million.
County Revenue Increase	At least \$2.4 million, but no more than \$50.4 million.

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) finds that the bill may result in an increase in State expenditures, and a concomitant increase of county revenues, of at least \$2.4 million, but no more than \$50.4 million. The bill requires funds to be transferred from the State Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to the General Fund and appropriated to county prosecutors. Information available to the OLS indicates that Essex County is likely to benefit from this bill, but no information is available from other counties.
- Certain funds seized and held by county prosecutors are deposited into a dedicated account known as a Seized Asset Trust Account for three years from the date of seizure. Under certain circumstances, these funds are disposed of as unclaimed property at the end of the three-year period.
- Current law requires abandoned property to escheat to the State, with funds deposited into the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund. However, the OLS is unable to independently determine whether, or in what amounts, property seized by county prosecutors has escheated to the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund in the timeframes specified in the bill.

BILL DESCRIPTION

The bill supplements the Fiscal Year 2021 annual State Appropriations Act to add a general provision transferring unclaimed assets from the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund (“trust fund”) to the General Fund for appropriation to the offices of the 21 county prosecutors.

The bill requires each county to receive an amount equal to the amount of unclaimed assets seized by each county prior to January 1, 2017, pursuant to the State’s civil forfeiture laws, and escheated to the trust fund on or after July 1, 2020. These assets were held by each county for three years following their seizure and escheated to the trust fund in accordance with standard operating procedures issued by the Attorney General regarding forfeiture program administration.

According to standard operating procedures issued by the Department of Law and Public Safety, county prosecutors are required to deposit into a Seized Asset Trust Account seized funds that are not yet forfeited and not held for evidence in a criminal matter. The standard operating procedures require these funds to be held in the account for three years from the date of seizure. At the conclusion of the three-year period, these funds are disposed of as unclaimed property pursuant to law. Pursuant to the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act, property that is deemed abandoned escheats to the State. Funds that escheat to the State from a Seized Asset Trust Account would be deposited into the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund.

The proposed general provision requires the funds distributed to each county to be used for law enforcement costs, including, but not limited to, the funding of a county-wide police body-worn camera and video storage program. The amount transferred to any county cannot exceed \$2.4 million. The bill also directs the State Treasurer to transmit a report to the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee and the Assembly Appropriations Committee detailing the amount transferred to each county and the purposes for which funds were expended.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The OLS finds that the bill will likely cause at least \$2.4 million, but no more than \$50.4 million, to be transferred from the State Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to the General Fund and appropriated to county prosecutors. Information available to the OLS indicates that Essex County is likely to receive approximately \$2.4 million from the State under this bill, but the OLS cannot determine whether this bill will impact other counties. This inability is rooted in a lack of information regarding the disposition of funds that were seized by county prosecutors, held in a Seized Asset Trust Accounts, and then escheated to the State because they were deemed abandoned in the timeframes specified by the bill. If all counties were entitled to the bill’s \$2.4 million maximum, a total of \$50.4 million would be paid by the State to county prosecutors.

The OLS is unable to independently determine whether, or in what amounts, counties have seized property and escheated it into the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund in the timeframes specified in the bill. If the formerly seized funds were deposited into the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund, the bill would result in an increase in State expenditures with a concomitant increase in county revenues.

Section: Revenue, Finance, and Appropriations

*Analyst: Scott A. Brodsky
Principal Fiscal Analyst*

*Approved: Thomas Koenig
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer*

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).

SENATE, No. 3044

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 19, 2020

Sponsored by:
Senator M. TERESA RUIZ
District 29 (Essex)

SYNOPSIS

Permits transfer of escheated civil forfeiture funds from Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to General Fund for appropriation to Essex County Prosecutor's Office.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 A SUPPLEMENT to the Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations act,
2 P.L.2019, c.150.

3

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

6

7 1. The following language provision is added to the General
8 Provisions of P.L.2019, c.150, the annual State appropriations act
9 for Fiscal Year 2020, as amended and supplemented by
10 P.L.2020, c.43:

11 105. Notwithstanding any provision of law or regulation to the
12 contrary, in addition to any other amounts transferred from the
13 Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to the General Fund and
14 appropriated herein, there is appropriated from the Unclaimed
15 Personal Property Trust Fund for transfer to the General Fund, an
16 amount not to exceed \$2,400,000 comprising unclaimed assets
17 seized by the County of Essex prior to January 1, 2017 pursuant to
18 N.J.S.2C:64-1 et seq., and deposited in the Unclaimed Personal
19 Property Trust Fund on or after July 1, 2020, which amount is
20 appropriated subject to the approval of the Director of the Division
21 of Budget and Accounting to the Office of the Essex County
22 Prosecutor for law enforcement purposes including, but not limited
23 to, the implementation of a county-wide police body-worn camera
24 and video storage program.

25

26 2. Section 105 of P.L.2019, c.150 is amended to read as
27 follows:

28 **[105.]** 106. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.
29 (cf: P.L.2020, c.43, s.9)

30

31 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

32

33

34

STATEMENT

35

36 This bill supplements P.L.2019, c.105, the Fiscal Year 2020
37 annual State appropriations act, to add a General Provision
38 transferring unclaimed assets totaling \$2.4 million from the
39 Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to the General Fund for
40 appropriation to the Essex County Prosecutor's Office. The
41 proposed General Provision requires the transferred funds for law
42 enforcement costs, including, but not limited to, the funding of a
43 county-wide police body-worn camera and video storage program.

44 The bill transfers assets seized by the County of Essex pursuant
45 to the State's civil forfeiture laws (N.J.S.2C:64-1 et seq.). These

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.

S3044 RUIZ

1 assets were held by the Essex County Prosecutor for three years
2 following their seizure and escheated to the State's Unclaimed
3 Personal Property Trust Fund, in accordance with standard
4 operating procedures issued by the Attorney General regarding
5 forfeiture program administration.

6 The unclaimed assets authorized for transfer under the bill were
7 seized by the County of Essex prior to January 1, 2017 and
8 escheated to the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund on or
9 after July 1, 2020.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3044

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 11, 2021

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 3044, with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill supplements P.L.2020, c.97, the Fiscal Year 2021 annual State appropriations act, to add a general provision transferring unclaimed assets from the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to the General Fund for appropriation to the offices of the 21 county prosecutors.

Each county would receive an amount equal to the amount of unclaimed assets seized by each county prior to January 1, 2017, pursuant to the State's civil forfeiture laws (N.J.S.2C:64-1 et seq.), and escheated to the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund on or after July 1, 2020.

The proposed general provision requires the funds distributed to each county to be used for law enforcement costs, including, but not limited to, the funding of a county-wide police body-worn camera and video storage program. The amount transferred to any county cannot exceed \$2.4 million.

These assets were held by each county for three years following their seizure and escheated to the State's Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund, in accordance with standard operating procedures issued by the Attorney General regarding forfeiture program administration.

The bill also requires the State Treasurer to transmit a report to the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee and the Assembly Appropriations Committee detailing the amount transferred to each county and the purposes for which funds were expended.

As reported, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 4788 (1R), as also amended and reported by the committee on this date.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amendments:

- require the transfer of applicable unclaimed assets to all county prosecutors' offices;
- provide that the amount transferred to any single county cannot exceed \$2.4 million;
- require the State Treasurer to provide a report to the Legislature's appropriations committees detailing the

amount transferred to each county and the purposes for which funds were expended; and

- make technical changes to the bill.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Fiscal information on this bill is not currently available.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 3044 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

DATED: MARCH 4, 2021

SUMMARY

- Synopsis:** Requires transfer of certain escheated civil forfeiture funds from Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to General Fund for appropriation to county prosecutors' offices.
- Type of Impact:** Indeterminate increase in State expenditures and indeterminate increase in county revenues.
- Agencies Affected:** Department of Law and Public Safety, Department of the Treasury, and counties.

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	<u>Fiscal Year 2021</u>
State Cost Increase	At least \$2.4 million, but not more than \$50.4 million.
County Revenue Increase	At least \$2.4 million but not more than \$50.4 million.

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) finds that the bill may result in an increase in State expenditures, and a concomitant increase of county revenues, of at least \$2.4 million, but no more than \$50.4 million. The bill requires funds to be transferred from the State Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to the General Fund and appropriated to county prosecutors. Information available to the OLS indicates that Essex County is likely to benefit from this bill, but no information is available from other counties.
- Certain funds seized and held by county prosecutors are deposited into a dedicated account known as a Seized Asset Trust Account for three years from the date of seizure. Under certain circumstances, these funds are disposed of as unclaimed property at the end of the three-year period.
- Current law requires abandoned property to escheat to the State, with funds deposited into the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund. However, the OLS is unable to independently determine whether, or in what amounts, property seized by county prosecutors has escheated to the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund in the timeframes specified in the bill.

BILL DESCRIPTION

The bill supplements the Fiscal Year 2021 annual State Appropriations Act to add a general provision transferring unclaimed assets from the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund (“trust fund”) to the General Fund for appropriation to the offices of the 21 county prosecutors.

The bill requires each county to receive an amount equal to the amount of unclaimed assets seized by each county prior to January 1, 2017, pursuant to the State’s civil forfeiture laws, and escheated to the trust fund on or after July 1, 2020. These assets were held by each county for three years following their seizure and escheated to the trust fund in accordance with standard operating procedures issued by the Attorney General regarding forfeiture program administration.

According to standard operating procedures issued by the Department of Law and Public Safety, county prosecutors are required to deposit into a Seized Asset Trust Account seized funds that are not yet forfeited and not held for evidence in a criminal matter. The standard operating procedures require these funds to be held in the account for three years from the date of seizure. At the conclusion of the three-year period, these funds are disposed of as unclaimed property pursuant to law. Pursuant to the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act, property that is deemed abandoned escheats to the State. Funds that escheat to the State from a Seized Asset Trust Account would be deposited into the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund.

The proposed general provision requires the funds distributed to each county to be used for law enforcement costs, including, but not limited to, the funding of a county-wide police body-worn camera and video storage program. The amount transferred to any county cannot exceed \$2.4 million. The bill also directs the State Treasurer to transmit a report to the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee and the Assembly Appropriations Committee detailing the amount transferred to each county and the purposes for which funds were expended.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The OLS finds that the bill will likely cause at least \$2.4 million, but no more than \$50.4 million, to be transferred from the State Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to the General Fund and appropriated to county prosecutors. Information available to the OLS indicates that Essex County is likely to receive approximately \$2.4 million from the State under this bill, but the OLS cannot determine whether this bill will impact other counties. This inability is rooted in a lack of information regarding the disposition of funds that were seized by county prosecutors, held in a Seized Asset Trust Accounts, and then escheated to the State because they were deemed abandoned in the timeframes specified by the bill. If all counties were entitled to the bill’s \$2.4 million maximum, a total of \$50.4 million would be paid by the State to county prosecutors.

The OLS is unable to independently determine whether, or in what amounts, counties have seized property and escheated it into the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund in the timeframes specified in the bill. If the formerly seized funds were deposited into the Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund, the bill would result in an increase in State expenditures with a concomitant increase in county revenues.

Section: Revenue Finance, and Appropriations

*Analyst: Scott A. Brodsky
Principal Fiscal Analyst*

*Approved: Thomas Koenig
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer*

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

05/5/2021

TRENTON – Today, Governor Murphy signed the following bills into law:

A-1070/S-2892 (Jasey, Benson/Pou, T. Kean) – Requires Secretary of Higher Education to develop guidance for institutions of higher education to identify cultural barriers in recruitment and retention of underrepresented students for science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) programs

A-4461/S-2698 (Lampitt, Jasey, Quijano/Ruiz, Turner) – Requires State to enter into contract and coordinate with certain cooperative purchasing systems for procurement of COVID-19 related goods and services by school districts

A-4788/S-3044 (Pintor Marin/Ruiz) – Requires transfer of certain escheated civil forfeiture funds from Unclaimed Personal Property Trust Fund to General Fund for appropriation to county prosecutors' offices

Governor Murphy conditionally vetoed the following bills:

ACS for A-4803 and 4811/SCS for S-2991 and 3117 (Sumter, Karabinchak, DeCroce, Spearman, Zwicker/Greenstein, Oroho, Addiego, Pou) – **CONDITIONAL** - Concerns approval process for personal protective equipment and State stockpiles of personal protective equipment

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A-1229/S-2161 (Schaer, Mosquera, Tucker, Lampitt, Vainieri Huttie, Quijano, Wimberly, Pintor Marin, Jasey/Turner, Singleton) – **CONDITIONAL** - Requires DCA to make information on homeless prevention programs and services available on its Internet website

[Copy of Statement](#)

Governor Murphy absolute vetoed the following bill:

A-4810/S-441 (Vainieri Huttie, Murphy/Oroho, Sarlo) – **ABSOLUTE** - Establishes Government Efficiency and Regulatory Review Commission

[Copy of Statement](#)