

# 52:27D-287.1

## LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

Compiled by the NJ State Law Library

**LAWS OF:** 2007           **CHAPTER:** 237

**NJSA:** 52:27D-287.1 (Lowers to 62 statutory qualifying age for low-income senior citizen State rental assistance grants)

**BILL NO:** A3197 (Substituted for S1936)

**SPONSOR(S)** Green and Others

**DATE INTRODUCED:** June 1, 2006

**COMMITTEE:**           **ASSEMBLY:** Housing and Local Government  
  **SENATE:** Budget and Appropriations; Community and Urban Affairs

**AMENDED DURING PASSAGE:** No

**DATE OF PASSAGE:**           **ASSEMBLY:** June 26, 2006  
  **SENATE:** December 17, 2007

**DATE OF APPROVAL:** January 3, 2008

**FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:**

[FINAL TEXT OF BILL](#) (Original version of bill enacted)

**A3197**

**[SPONSOR'S STATEMENT:](#)** (Begins on page 2 of original bill) [Yes](#)

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:**                                 **[ASSEMBLY:](#)** [Yes](#)

**SENATE:** Yes [Community 11-13-06](#)  
[Budget 12-3-07](#)

(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](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us))

**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:** No

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** Yes [12-5-07](#)

**S1936**

**[SPONSOR'S STATEMENT:](#)** (Begins on page 2 of original bill) [Yes](#)

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:**                                 **ASSEMBLY:** No

**SENATE:** Yes [Community 11-13-06](#)  
[Budget 12-3-07](#)

**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:** No

**[LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:](#)** [Yes](#)

**VETO MESSAGE:**

No

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

No

**FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:**

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext. 103 or <mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org>.

**REPORTS:**

No

**HEARINGS:**

No

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:**

No

RWH 5/23/08



# ASSEMBLY, No. 3197

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 212th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 1, 2006

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman JERRY GREEN**

**District 22 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union)**

**Assemblywoman NILSA CRUZ-PEREZ**

**District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)**

**Assemblyman ROBERT M. GORDON**

**District 38 (Bergen)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman Greenstein, Assemblyman Chivukula, Senators Rice, James, Turner, Lesniak, Sweeney, Bryant, Madden and Coniglio**

**SYNOPSIS**

Lowers to 62 statutory qualifying age for low-income senior citizen State rental assistance grants.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/18/2007)**

1 AN ACT concerning State rental assistance grants for senior citizens  
2 and amending P.L.2004, c.140.

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.2004, c.140 (C.52:27D-287.1) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 1. The Commissioner of Community Affairs shall establish a  
10 rental assistance program for low income individuals or  
11 households. This program shall be in addition to and supplement  
12 any existing programs established pursuant to the "Prevention of  
13 Homelessness Act (1984)," P.L.1984, c.180 (C.52:27D-280 et seq.).

14 a. The program shall provide rental assistance grants comparable  
15 to the federal section 8 program, but shall be available only to State  
16 residents who are not currently holders of federal section 8  
17 vouchers.

18 b. Assistance to an individual or household under the State  
19 program shall be terminated upon the award of federal section 8  
20 rental assistance to the same individual or household.

21 c. The program shall reserve a portion of the grants for  
22 assistance to senior citizens aged **[65]** 62 or older who otherwise  
23 meet the criteria of subsection a. of this section.

24 (cf: P.L.2004, c.140, s.1)

25

26 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

27

28

29

#### STATEMENT

30

31 This bill would reduce the age for State rental assistance grants  
32 to low-income senior citizens from age 65 to age 62. Lowering the  
33 age will increase the availability of the grants to more senior  
34 citizens.

**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.

ASSEMBLY HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 3197**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 12, 2006

The Assembly Housing and Local Government Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3197.

This bill would reduce the age for State rental assistance grants to low-income senior citizens from age 65 to age 62. Lowering the age will increase the availability of the grants to more senior citizens.

SENATE COMMUNITY AND URBAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 3197**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: NOVEMBER 13, 2006

The Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 3197.

This bill would reduce the age for State rental assistance grants to low-income senior citizens from age 65 to age 62. Lowering the age will increase the availability of the grants to more senior citizens.

# SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### ASSEMBLY, No. 3197

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 3, 2007

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3197.

The bill would reduce the age for State rental assistance grants to low-income senior citizens from age 65 to age 62. Lowering the age will increase the availability of the grants to more senior citizens.

This bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 1936, as also reported by the committee.

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services estimates that there would be no additional cost to the State if the senior citizen age threshold in the State Rental Assistance Program (S-RAP) were lowered from age 65 to 62. This bill would shift an unknown number of individuals aged 62-64 into the senior citizen category, from the non-senior citizen category, of those eligible to participate in S-RAP. This bill does not affect the number of people eligible for the program nor the level of program benefits each eligible person may receive.

Enactment of this bill may compel the Department of Community Affairs to revise administrative rules governing the S-RAP to extend program benefits to more eligible persons aged 62-64. Given that unexpended S-RAP appropriations exceed \$50 million as of November 28, 2007, and assuming appropriations in future fiscal years are equal to FY 2008 appropriations, adequate resources would be available to accommodate any increase in program participants that would result from this bill.



[Corrected Copy]  
**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE**  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 3197**  
**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**212th LEGISLATURE**

DATED: DECEMBER 5, 2007

**SUMMARY**

**Synopsis:** Lowers to 62 statutory qualifying age for low-income senior citizen State rental assistance grants.

**Type of Impact:** Allocation of costs within the Neighborhood Preservation Non-lapsing Revolving Fund.

**Agencies Affected:** Department of Community Affairs

**Office of Legislative Services Estimate**

<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	<u><b>Year 1</b></u>	<u><b>Year 2</b></u>	<u><b>Year 3</b></u>
<b>State Cost</b>	No Impact - See comments below		

- The Office of Legislative Services estimates that there would be no additional cost to the State if the senior citizen age threshold in the State Rental Assistance Program (S-RAP) were lowered from 65 to 62.
- Senate Bill No. 1936 would shift an unknown number of individuals aged 62-64 into the senior citizen category, from the non-senior citizen category, of those eligible to participate in the S-RAP. The bill does not affect the number of people eligible for the program or the level of program benefits each eligible person may receive. The categorization of senior citizens within the program is relevant only to the statutory requirement that a minimum amount of funding be made available to fund benefits for such persons.
- Enactment of this bill may compel the Department of Community Affairs to revise administrative rules governing the S-RAP to extend program benefits to more eligible persons aged 62-64. Given that unexpended S-RAP appropriations exceed \$50 million as of November 28, 2007, and assuming that appropriations in future fiscal years are equal to the FY 2008 appropriations, adequate resources would be available to accommodate any increase in program participants that would result from this bill.
- Pursuant to the rules for the State Rental Assistance Program N.J.A.C.5:42-1.1 et seq., not less than \$7.5 million of the rental assistance grants are reserved for senior citizens (persons aged 65 or older) eligible for a rental subsidy under the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

These rental assistance grants are to be awarded through a “lottery-type process” to applicants from the department’s Housing Choice Voucher Program waiting list.

## **BILL DESCRIPTION**

Assembly Bill No. 3187 of 2006 would reduce the age threshold for determining senior citizen status under the State Rental Assistance Program from age 65 to 62.

## **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

### ***EXECUTIVE BRANCH***

None received.

### ***OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES***

The Office of Legislative Services estimates that there would be no additional cost to the State if the senior citizen age threshold in the State Rental Assistance Program (S-RAP) were lowered from age 65 to 62. This bill would shift an unknown number of individuals aged 62-64 into the senior citizen category, from the non-senior citizen category, of those eligible to participate in S-RAP. This bill does not affect the number of people eligible for the program nor the level of program benefits each eligible person may receive.

Enactment of this bill would necessitate that the Department of Community Affairs revise its administrative rules governing the S-RAP to extend program benefits to more eligible persons who are aged 62-64. Given that unexpended S-RAP appropriations exceed \$50 million as of November 28, 2007, and assuming appropriations in future fiscal years are equal to FY 2008 appropriations, adequate resources would be available to accommodate any increase in eligible senior citizen program participants that would result from this bill.

Pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2004, c.140 (C.52:27D-287.3) at least \$10 million from the Neighborhood Preservation Non-lapsing Revolving Fund be made available to fund rental assistance grants. At least \$3 million must be annually allocated to provide grants for eligible senior citizens (persons aged 65 or older). The department currently complies with that requirement. State appropriations to this program from other resources total \$17.5 million for FY 2008.

*Section:* Local Government

*Analyst:* Scott A. Brodsky  
Assistant Fiscal Analyst

*Approved:* David J. Rosen  
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-1 et seq.).

# SENATE, No. 1936

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 212th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 8, 2006

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator RONALD L. RICE**

**District 28 (Essex)**

**Senator SHARPE JAMES**

**District 29 (Essex and Union)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Turner, Lesniak, Sweeney, Bryant, Madden and Coniglio**

**SYNOPSIS**

Lowers to 62 statutory qualifying age for low-income senior citizen State rental assistance grants.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



S1936 RICE, JAMES

2

1 AN ACT concerning State rental assistance grants for senior citizens  
2 and amending P.L.2004, c.140.

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.2004, c.140 (C.52:27D-287.1) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 1. The Commissioner of Community Affairs shall establish a  
10 rental assistance program for low income individuals or  
11 households. This program shall be in addition to and supplement  
12 any existing programs established pursuant to the "Prevention of  
13 Homelessness Act (1984)," P.L.1984, c.180 (C.52:27D-280 et seq.).

14 a. The program shall provide rental assistance grants comparable  
15 to the federal section 8 program, but shall be available only to State  
16 residents who are not currently holders of federal section 8  
17 vouchers.

18 b. Assistance to an individual or household under the State  
19 program shall be terminated upon the award of federal section 8  
20 rental assistance to the same individual or household.

21 c. The program shall reserve a portion of the grants for  
22 assistance to senior citizens aged **[65]** 62 or older who otherwise  
23 meet the criteria of subsection a. of this section.

24 (cf: P.L.2004, c.140, s.1)

25

26 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

27

28

29

STATEMENT

30

31 This bill would reduce the age for State rental assistance grants  
32 to low-income senior citizens from age 65 to age 62. Lowering the  
33 age will increase the availability of the grants to more senior  
34 citizens.

**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.

SENATE COMMUNITY AND URBAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 1936**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: NOVEMBER 13, 2006

The Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1936.

This bill would reduce the age for State rental assistance grants to low-income senior citizens from age 65 to age 62. Lowering the age will increase the availability of the grants to more senior citizens.

# SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### SENATE, No. 1936

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 3, 2007

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1936.

The bill would reduce the age for State rental assistance grants to low-income senior citizens from age 65 to age 62. Lowering the age will increase the availability of the grants to more senior citizens.

This bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 3197, as also reported by the committee.

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services estimates that there would be no additional cost to the State if the senior citizen age threshold in the State Rental Assistance Program (S-RAP) were lowered from age 65 to 62. This bill would shift an unknown number of individuals aged 62-64 into the senior citizen category, from the non-senior citizen category, of those eligible to participate in S-RAP. This bill does not affect the number of people eligible for the program nor the level of program benefits each eligible person may receive.

Enactment of this bill may compel the Department of Community Affairs to revise administrative rules governing the S-RAP to extend program benefits to more eligible persons aged 62-64. Given that unexpended S-RAP appropriations exceed \$50 million as of November 28, 2007, and assuming appropriations in future fiscal years are equal to FY 2008 appropriations, adequate resources would be available to accommodate any increase in program participants that would result from this bill.

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE**  
**SENATE, No. 1936**  
**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**212th LEGISLATURE**

DATED: DECEMBER 5, 2007

**SUMMARY**

**Synopsis:** Lowers to 62 statutory qualifying age for low-income senior citizen State rental assistance grants.

**Type of Impact:** Allocation of costs within the Neighborhood Preservation Non-lapsing Revolving Fund.

**Agencies Affected:** Department of Community Affairs

**Office of Legislative Services Estimate**

<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	<u><b>Year 1</b></u>	<u><b>Year 2</b></u>	<u><b>Year 3</b></u>
<b>State Cost</b>	No Impact - See comments below		

- The Office of Legislative Services estimates that there would be no additional cost to the State if the senior citizen age threshold in the State Rental Assistance Program (S-RAP) were lowered from 65 to 62.
- Senate Bill No. 1936 would shift an unknown number of individuals aged 62-64 into the senior citizen category, from the non-senior citizen category, of those eligible to participate in the S-RAP. The bill does not affect the number of people eligible for the program or the level of program benefits each eligible person may receive. The categorization of senior citizens within the program is relevant only to the statutory requirement that a minimum amount of funding be made available to fund benefits for such persons.
- Enactment of this bill may compel the Department of Community Affairs to revise administrative rules governing the S-RAP to extend program benefits to more eligible persons aged 62-64. Given that unexpended S-RAP appropriations exceed \$50 million as of November 28, 2007, and assuming that appropriations in future fiscal years are equal to the FY 2008 appropriations, adequate resources would be available to accommodate any increase in program participants that would result from this bill.
- Pursuant to the rules for the State Rental Assistance Program, N.J.A.C.5:42-1.1 et seq., not less than \$7.5 million of the rental assistance grants are reserved for senior citizens (persons aged 65 or older) eligible for a rental subsidy under the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

These rental assistance grants are to be awarded through a “lottery-type process” to applicants from the department’s Housing Choice Voucher Program waiting list.

## **BILL DESCRIPTION**

Senate Bill No. 1936 of 2006 would reduce the age threshold for determining senior citizen status under the State Rental Assistance Program from age 65 to age 62.

## **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

### ***EXECUTIVE BRANCH***

None received.

### ***OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES***

The Office of Legislative Services estimates that there would be no additional cost to the State if the senior citizen age threshold in the State Rental Assistance Program (S-RAP) were lowered from age 65 to 62. This bill would shift an unknown number of individuals aged 62-64 into the senior citizen category, from the non-senior citizen category, of those eligible to participate in S-RAP. This bill does not affect the number of people eligible for the program nor the level of program benefits each eligible person may receive.

Enactment of this bill would necessitate that the Department of Community Affairs revise its administrative rules governing the S-RAP to extend program benefits to more eligible persons who are aged 62-64. Given that unexpended S-RAP appropriations exceed \$50 million as of November 28, 2007, and assuming appropriations in future fiscal years are equal to FY 2008 appropriations, adequate resources would be available to accommodate any increase in eligible senior citizen program participants that would result from this bill.

Pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2004, c.140 (C.52:27D-287.3) at least \$10 million from the Neighborhood Preservation Non-lapsing Revolving Fund be made available to fund rental assistance grants. At least \$3 million must be annually allocated to provide grants for eligible senior citizens (persons aged 65 or older). The department currently complies with that requirement. State appropriations to this program from other resources total \$17.5 million for FY 2008.

*Section:* Local Government

*Analyst:* Scott A. Brodsky  
Assistant Fiscal Analyst

*Approved:* David J. Rosen  
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-1 et seq.).