

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 40:5-2

(Volunteer associations receiving local government support-annual audits-submit to chief financial official)

LAWS OF: 1983

CHAPTER: 520

Bill No: A2021

Sponsor(s): Girgenti

Date Introduced: October 18, 1982

Committee: Assembly: Municipal Government

Senate: County and Municipal Government

Amended during passage: Yes

Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of Passage: Assembly: March 14, 1983

Senate: December 12, 1983

Date of Approval: January 17, 1984

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes

Committee statement: Assembly No
Senate Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on Signing: No

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

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ASSEMBLY, No. 2021

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 18, 1982

By Assemblyman GIRGENTI

AN ACT concerning county and municipal support of first aid and emergency or volunteer ambulance or rescue squad associations, and amending R. S. 40:5-2.

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

1 1. R. S. 40:5-2 is amended to read as follows:

2 40:5-2. Any county or municipality may make a voluntary con-
3 tribution of not more than \$25,000.00 annually to any duly incor-
4 porated first aid and emergency or volunteer ambulance or rescue
5 squad association of the county, or of any municipality therein,
6 rendering service generally throughout the county, or any of the
7 municipalities thereof. In addition, if any such associations experi-
8 ence extraordinary need, the county or municipality may contribute
9 an additional amount of not more than \$25,000.00 annually; pro-
10 vided, however, that the need for such additional funds is estab-
11 lished by the association and is directly related to the performance
12 of said association's duties. The chief financial officer of the county
13 or municipality shall **[perform]** receive ***[an]*** ****[*a certified*]****
14 ****an**** audit ****performed by a certified public accountant or a**
15 **registered municipal accountant**** in any year in which any contri-
16 bution is made of each association's financial records for the
17 ****[current]**** ****previous fiscal**** year and shall **[certify to the**
18 **governing body]** *file a copy thereof with the clerk* of the county or
19 municipality **[that such records are being maintained in accordance**
20 **with sound accounting principles]**.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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 printed in italics thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in asterisks or stars has been adopted as follows:

***—Assembly committee amendment adopted November 23, 1982.**

****—Senate committee amendments adopted June 23, 1983.**

A2021 (1982)

2

STATEMENT

In 1978, this section of law was amended to require that the chief financial officer of the county or municipality perform an audit of any first aid, emergency or volunteer ambulance or rescue squad which received a voluntary contribution from the local governmental unit.

The amendment placed undue responsibility on the local financial officer and has forced him to assume certain financial oversight functions with regards to the recipient voluntary organizations.

The purpose of this amendatory bill is to free the chief financial officer from such oversight responsibilities while still assuring that the local unit's voluntary contribution is being utilized in an appropriate manner.

Under the provisions of this bill, the chief financial officer would receive a copy of a recipient association's annual audit and file it with the clerk of the county or municipality.

SENATE COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 2021

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with Senate committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 23, 1983

Assembly Bill No. 2021 would eliminate the current statutory requirement that the chief financial officer of the county or municipality perform an audit of any first aid, emergency or volunteer ambulance or rescue squad which receive a voluntary contribution from the local governmental unit. Under the provisions of the bill, the chief financial officer would receive a copy of a recipient association's annual audit and file it with the clerk of the local unit which made the contribution.

Under current law, counties and municipalities are permitted to contribute up to \$25,000.00 a year to any duly incorporated first aid, emergency or volunteer ambulance or rescue squad which serves the needs and citizens of the local unit. If the association is able to demonstrate "extraordinary need," the local unit may contribute an additional \$25,000.00.

Whenever a local unit makes such an additional contribution, the law requires that the chief financial officer of the unit perform an annual audit of the association. This bill eliminates that requirement, which has placed undue responsibility on the local financial officer, and has forced him to assume certain financial oversight functions with respect to the recipient associations.

The Senate committee amendments clarify the audit requirements, by requiring that the audit be performed by a certified public accountant or registered municipal accountant, and be for the previous fiscal year's financial records.