

2022-2023 Legislative Session Public Laws

The following bills were enacted as the Public Laws of 2023:

Intra Municipal Affairs

- **Chapter 94**, S3943 – Allows Attorney General to appoint officer in charge when superseding certain law enforcement agencies. Enacted 7/3/2023.
- **Chapter 114**, S-3309 – Raises maximum workers' compensation fees for evaluating physicians; expands circumstances for which physician legal fees are permitted. Enacted 7/20/2023.
- **Chapter 123**, A-4864 – Expands scope of Foreclosure Mediation Assistance Program during State of Emergency to allow use of program funds for payment to counselors who help disaster victims process applications for assistance. Enacted 7/20/2023.
- **Chapter 124**, A-5175 – Changes certain General Election deadlines. Enacted 7/20/2023.
- **Chapter 129**, S-981 – Establishes procedures for seizure, care, and forfeiture of animals involved in animal cruelty violations. Enacted 7/26/2023.
- **Chapter 131**, A-5176 – Requires periodic reporting of election results on night of primary and general election and until final tally thereafter; appropriates \$1.5 million. Enacted 7/27/2023.
- **Chapter 132**, S-3374 – Provides that operator, owner, lessor, or lienholder of vehicle may be responsible for certain towing and storage fees; applies retroactively. Enacted 8/7/2023.

General Legislation

- **Chapter 75**, A-1 – Establishes Stay NJ property tax credit program; establishes Stay NJ Task Force; expands income limit and modifies ownership requirement for eligibility to receive homestead property tax reimbursement; enhances ANCHOR benefits for seniors; and makes appropriations. Enacted 6/30/2023.
- **Chapter 87**, A-5209 – Establishes Agritourism Fund; requires annual appropriation of \$2.5 million from General Fund; appropriates \$2.5 million. Enacted 6/30/2023.
- **Chapter 100**, A-4930 – Expands criminal penalties related to illegal use of motor vehicle master key. Enacted 7/7/2023.

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The following bills were enacted as the Public Laws of 2023 (*continued*):

General Legislation (*continued*)

- **Chapter 101**, A-4931 – Chapter 100, A-4930 – Expands criminal penalties related to illegal use of motor vehicle master key. Enacted 7/3/2023.
- **Chapter 102**, A-5034 – Expands crime of leader of auto theft trafficking network; establishes third degree crime of participant in auto theft trafficking network. Enacted 7/7/2023.
- **Chapter 104**, S-3328 – Allows issuance of alcoholic beverage retail license for use in connection with nonprofit movie theaters that promote arts. Enacted 7/3/2023.
- **Chapter 135**, A-4686 – Establishes penalties for person who commits motor vehicle noise violation. Enacted 8/7/2023.
- **Chapter 136**, S-3989 – Establishes “Boardwalk Preservation Fund” in DCA; appropriates \$100 million from federal “American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.” Enacted 8/15/2023.
- **Chapter 144**, A-5329 – Extends useful service life of certain school buses to 20 years; provides temporary one-year extension of service life of Type S school buses. Enacted 8/16/2023.

Tax and Finance

- **Chapter 84**, A-4674 – Concerns eligibility for senior freeze reimbursement if eligible claimant exceeds income limit. Enacted 6/30/2023.
- **Chapter 92**, S-3090 – Provides retirement allowance after 20 years of service regardless of age for members of PFRS. Enacted 7/3/2023.
- **Chapter 117**, A-3753 – Designates State Office of Emergency Management as State Agency for Surplus Property. Enacted 7/20/2023.
- **Chapter 128**, S-1442 – Requires public works contractor registration and payroll certification for public works projects to be completed online. Enacted 8/16/2023.
- **Chapter 133**, S-3376 – Provides that operator, owner, lessor, or lienholder of vehicle may be responsible for certain towing and storage fees; applies retroactively. Enacted 8/7/2023.

Land Use

- **Chapter 77**, A-5596 – Establishes Urban Preservation Program in HMFA; requires federal funds be made available to HMFA to support affordable housing rehabilitation and reconstruction. Enacted 6/30/2023.
- **Chapter 78**, A-5415 – Provides down payment assistance for benefit of certain first-time homebuyers; establishes Resilient Home Construction Pilot Program. Enacted 6/30/2023.
- **Chapter 93**, S-3110 – Requires sellers of real property and landlords to make certain notifications regarding flooding. Enacted 7/3/2023.
- **Chapter 116**, S-3444 – Allows certain municipal water systems, under certain circumstances, to use lands preserved for recreation and conservation for drinking water wells and associated treatment equipment or facilities. Enacted 7/20/2023.



Approved by the League.



Opposed by the League.

Intra Municipal Affairs

League Contact: Paul Penna, ppenna@njlm.org, extension #110

	<p>A-5321/S-3712 – Carter, Jaffer, Stanley/Gopal</p> <p>“Stephanie’s Law”; Requires AOC to establish publicly accessible domestic violence registry; requires law enforcement officer to search State’s domestic violence registries when conducting arrest.</p> <p>Current Status: Assembly Judiciary Committee/Senate Judiciary Committee</p>
	<p>A-5351 – Karabinchak, Lopez, McKeon</p> <p>Prohibits collection of biometric identifier information by public or private entity under certain circumstances.</p> <p>League Comments: Impracticable. As drafted, municipal governments would need to apply the notice provision to government building video surveillance systems, traffic control video cameras, public parking lot security systems, utility security systems, downtown street monitoring cameras, school security, police body cameras, and other applications.</p> <p>Current Status: Assembly Consumer Affairs</p>
	<p>A-5438/S-3837 – Pintor Marin/Pou, Cruz-Perez</p> <p>Clarifies process for administrative appropriations to UEZs; makes appropriation.</p> <p>Current Status: Assembly Commerce and Economic Development/Passed Senate 27-10</p>
	<p>S-3818 – Lagana</p> <p>Increases attorney fee in workers’ compensation cases.</p> <p>League Comments: Poses a significant cost increase for municipalities. New Jersey municipalities are currently paying the highest workers compensation rates in the nation and this legislation would exacerbate Workers Compensation costs.</p> <p>Current Status: Senate Labor Committee</p>
	<p>S-3853 – Gopal</p> <p>Provides for mayor to retain appointing authority under certain circumstances.</p> <p>Current Status: Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee</p>



Approved by the League.



Opposed by the League.

General Legislation

League Contact: Andrew LaFevre, alafevre@njlm.org, extension #116

	A-5341/S-3816 – Spearman, Atkins, Carter/Greenstein, Cruz-Perez
	Establishes Law Enforcement Critical Mental Health Assistance Grant Program; appropriates \$3 million.
	Current Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee/Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee
	A-5394/S-3859 – Moen, Mukherji, Spearman/Singleton
	Requires law enforcement develop protocol for social media in certain circumstances.
	Current Status: Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee/Senate Law and Public Safety Committee
	A-5461/S-3833 – Danielsen, Speight, Mukherji/Cryan
	Allows municipalities to transfer inactive alcoholic beverage retail licenses for use in redevelopment areas under certain circumstances; allows retail distribution and seasonal consumption licenses to be converted into consumption licenses.
	Current Status: 2nd reading in Assembly/Senate Law and Public Safety Committee
	S-3810/A-5780 – Bramnick/Matsikoudis
	Allows municipalities to advertise for free on certain bridges and railways overpasses.
	Current Status: Senate Transportation Committee/Assembly Transportation Independent Authority Committee

Taxation & Finance

League Contact: Lori Buckelew, lbuckelew@njlm.org, extension #112

	A-5464/S-3843 – Umba/Stanfield
	Increases allowed amount of property tax refunds and certain cancellations that can be authorized without further action of municipal governing body.
	Current Status: Assembly State and Local Government Committee/2nd reading in Senate
	S-3745/A-5611 – Pou/Atkins
	Renames Division of Purchase and Property; revises certain aspects of State procurement process; repeals MacBride principles certification requirement.
	League Comments: Creates additional burdens during the procurement process. Current Status: Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation Committee/Assembly State and Local Government Committee

Taxation & Finance

League Contact: Lori Buckelew, lbuckelew@njlm.org, extension #112

	S-3774/A-5535 – Gopal/Speight, Atkins
	Provides that applicants for examinations to become certified municipal finance officers are not required to have specific major from four-year college to qualify for position.
	League Comments: While the bill could expand the pool of eligible candidates, the degree should be connected to the position to attract candidates who can be successful in the field.
	Current Status: Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee/ Assembly State and Local Government Committee
	S-3775/A-5536 – Gopal/Speight, Atkins
	Provides equitable relief to government contractors who have sustained unanticipated expenses due to increases for construction materials; appropriates \$25 million.
	League Comments: Concern with the implementation of such legislation and the cost associated with the bill.
	Current Status: Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation Committee/Assembly State and Local Government Committee
	S-3807/A-5567 – Bucco, Sarlo/Torrissi
	Extends period of usefulness of fire engines for bonding purposes from 10 to 20 years; eliminates exclusion of passenger cars and station wagons.
	Current Status: 2nd Reading in Senate/Unanimously passed Assembly
	S-3826/A-5530 – Cryan/Conaway
	Establishes State and local government purchasing and use requirements for cybersecurity systems.
	League Comments: Creates an one size fits all approach.
	Current Status: Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation Committee/Assembly Science, Innovation and Technology Committee

Land Use

League Contact: Frank Marshall, Esq., fmarshall@njlm.org, extension #137

	A-4950 – Sauickie, Freiman, Clifton
	Requires State Planning Commission to adopt model ordinance for siting certain warehouses and permits conforming updates to municipal master plans and zoning ordinances and establishes fund in DCA; appropriates \$5 million.
	Current Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee



Approved by the League.



Opposed by the League.

Land Use

League Contact: Frank Marshall, Esq., fmarshall@njlm.org, extension #137

	A-5296 – Sauickie
	Enhances notice requirements prior to development of large warehouse or high-density development.
	League Comments: While the League is appreciative of efforts to increase notice for development this bill places that burden on the municipal clerk instead of more appropriately, the developer.
Current Status: Assembly Housing Committee	
	A-5390 – Paterson
	Concerns standards for fair share affordable housing credit for housing reserved for veterans; requires veteran preference in certain affordable housing application administration.
	Current Status: Assembly Housing Committee
	A-5466 – Spearman
	Creates “New Jersey Grid Modernization Task Force” in Governor’s office.
	League Comments: This bill is unnecessary and duplicative as the State’s Energy Master Plan already provides this information.
Current Status: Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee	
	ACR-179/SCR-104 – Space, Wirths/Oroho
	Proposes Constitutional amendment to limit exercise of eminent domain to acquisition of land for essential public purposes.
	League Comments: This bill hinders reasonable redevelopment and blight removal efforts.
Current Status: Assembly Commerce and Economic Development/Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee	
	S-3803 – Pennacchio
	Reauthorizes use of regional contribution agreements related to affordable housing obligations; establishes approval role of DCA and Attorney General.
	Current Status: Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee
	S-3824/A-3317 – Cryan/McKnight
	Establishes residential property wholesaler license.
	Current Status: Senate Commerce Committee/ Assembly Regulated Professions Committee

Land Use

League Contact: Frank Marshall, Esq., fmarshall@njlm.org, extension #137

	S-3863/A-5477 – Singer/Kean S, Thomson
	Establishes program, in DEP, for acquisition of development easements on privately-owned woodlands.
	League Comments: The League is supportive of this idea but believes additional guidelines need to be in place before such a program can be implemented.
	Current Status: 2nd reading in Senate/ Assembly Environment and Solid Waste Committee



