

SENATE, No. 2332

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
212th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 13, 2006

Sponsored by:
Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER
District 15 (Mercer)

SYNOPSIS

Authorizes payment options for certain motor vehicle fines and fees.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



S2332 TURNER

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1 AN ACT concerning payment options for certain motor vehicle fines
2 and fees and amending P.L.1981, c.365 and P.L.1975, c.180.

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

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7 1. Section 1 of P.L.1981, c.365 (C.39:4-203.1) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 1. Any defendant convicted of a traffic offense pursuant to
10 Title 39 of the Revised Statutes or a parking offense, shall, upon a
11 satisfactory showing of a condition of indigency or participation in
12 a government-based income maintenance program, be permitted by
13 the court to pay the fine in installments. The court shall set the
14 amount and frequency of each installment[, except that the final
15 installment shall be due no later than 12 months from the date of
16 conviction]. In addition, the court may, upon a satisfactory
17 showing that a defendant is indigent or participates in a government
18 based income maintenance program, suspend or vacate up to one
19 half of the unpaid portion of any fine assessed by the court or any
20 statutorily assessed surcharge, except for the surcharge assessed
21 pursuant to subsection f. of section 1 of P.L.2000, c.75 (C.39:4-
22 97.2), and in lieu of the suspended or vacated unpaid portion of
23 fines or surcharges, require the defendant to perform community
24 service for a period of time to be determined by the court or
25 participate in any program authorized by law, or satisfy any other
26 aspect of a sentence imposed.

27 (cf: P.L.1999, c.397, s.2)

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29 2. Section 23 of P.L.1975, c.180 (C.39:3-10a) is amended to
30 read as follows:

31 23. The **[Director of Motor Vehicles]** chief administrator shall
32 charge a fee of \$100 for the restoration of any license which has
33 been suspended or revoked by reason of the licensee's violation of
34 any law or regulation and for the restoration of vehicle registrations
35 that have been suspended pursuant to any law. Notwithstanding
36 any law to the contrary, the chief administrator, upon a satisfactory
37 showing of indigency or participation in a government based
38 income maintenance program, may either waive the restoration fee
39 or permit the restoration fee to be paid in installments. The
40 **[director]** chief administrator may promulgate such regulations
41 hereunder as he may deem necessary.

42 (cf: P.L.2002, c.34, s.14)

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44 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the sixth month
45 after enactment.

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.

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STATEMENT

This bill would provide indigents and participants in a government based income maintenance program with options for paying motor vehicle court fines and license and motor vehicle registration restoration fees.

Under the provisions of this bill, for a defendant who is indigent or who participates in a government based income maintenance program, the court would have the option to suspend or vacate up to one half of the unpaid portion of any traffic fine (other than for dangerously unsafe driving) and instead require community service in lieu of payment. Similarly, the commission would be authorized to waive or create a payment plan for the license restoration fee or motor vehicle registration restoration fee for an individual who demonstrates that he is indigent or participates in a government based income maintenance program.