

## CHAPTER 24

**AN ACT** concerning voluntary contributions through gross income tax returns to support autism programs, supplementing chapter 9 of Title 54A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

C.54A:9-25.41 “Autism Programs Fund.”

1. a. There is established in the Department of the Treasury a special fund within the “Autism Medical Research and Treatment Fund” to be known as the “Autism Programs Fund.”

b. A taxpayer shall have the opportunity to indicate on the taxpayer’s New Jersey gross income tax return that a portion of the taxpayer’s tax refund or an enclosed contribution shall be deposited in the “Autism Programs Fund” in accordance with the provisions of section 1 of P.L.1999, c.21 (C.54A:9-25.14).

c. Any costs incurred by the Division of Taxation for collection or administration attributable to this section may be deducted from receipts collected pursuant to this section, as determined by the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the Treasury. The State Treasurer shall deposit net contributions collected pursuant to this section into the “Autism Programs Fund.”

d. The Legislature shall annually appropriate all funds deposited in the “Autism Programs Fund” to the Department of Health to be used exclusively for the support of service-oriented autism programs throughout the State.

2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to taxable years beginning on or after January 1 next following the date of enactment.

Approved February 10, 2017.