

The Governor of New Jersey recently signed into law a bill that will increase the amount of compensation that wrongfully convicted individuals can receive from the state for each year they were wrongfully incarcerated. Under the new law, exonerated individuals in New Jersey will be eligible to receive \$50,000 for each year they were wrongfully incarcerated. Under prior law, exonerees received either a maximum of \$20,000 or twice their annual pre-conviction income for each year served.

New Jersey is one of 29 states, along with the District of Columbia, that provides compensation to residents who were wrongfully convicted. Prior to enactment of the new law with the \$50,000 per year payment, the state's compensation levels were last updated some 16 years ago.

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