## P.L. 2018, CHAPTER 19, *approved May 30, 2018*Senate Committee Substitute (*First Reprint*) for Senate, No. 846

1 AN ACT concerning <sup>1</sup> [certain] <sup>1</sup> urban enterprise zones, amending 2 P.L.1983, c.303 and P.L.2001, c.347 <sup>1</sup>, <sup>1</sup> and supplementing Title 3 52 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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the authority:

1. Section 7 of P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-66) is amended to read as follows:

7. The authority shall designate enterprise zones from among 10 those areas of qualifying municipalities determined to be eligible 11 12 pursuant to P.L.1983, [s.] c.303 (C.52:27H-60 et seq.). No more than 32 enterprise zones shall be in effect at any one time. No more 13 14 than one enterprise zone shall be designated in any one 15 municipality. [Except as otherwise provided by section 11 of 16 P.L.2001, c.347 (C.52:27H-66.6), any designation granted shall be 17 for a period of 20 years, beginning with the year in which a zone is 18 eligible for an exemption to the extent of 50% of the tax imposed 19 under the "Sales and Use Tax Act," P.L.1966, c.30 (C.54:32B-1 et 20 seq.), and shall not be renewed at the end of that period. In 21 designating enterprise zones the authority shall seek to avoid 22 excessive geographic concentration of zones in any particular region of the State. At least six of the 10 additional enterprise 23 zones authorized pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1993, c.367 shall be 24 25 located in counties in which enterprise zones have not previously 26 been designated and shall be designated within 90 days of the date 27 of the submittal of an application and zone development plan. The 28 authority shall accept applications within 90 days of the effective 29 date of P.L.1993, c.367. Notwithstanding the provisions of 30 P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-60 et seq.) to the contrary, the six 31 additional enterprise zones to be designated by the authority 32 pursuant to the criteria for priority consideration in this section shall 33 be entitled to an exemption to the extent of [50%] 50 percent of the 34 tax imposed under the "Sales and Use Tax Act," P.L.1966, c.30 35 (C.54:32B-1 et seq.). The following criteria shall be utilized in 36 according priority consideration for designation of these zones by

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Assembly floor amendments adopted March 26, 2018.

a. One zone shall be located in a county of the second class with a population greater than 595,000 and less than 675,000 according to the latest federal decennial census and shall be located in the qualifying municipality in that county with the highest annual average number of unemployed persons and the highest average annual unemployment rate for the 1992 calendar year according to the estimate by the State Department of Labor and Workforce Development;

- b. Two zones shall be located in a county of the second class with a population greater than 445,000 and less than 455,000 according to the latest federal decennial census, one of which shall be located in the qualifying municipality in that county with the highest annual average number of unemployed persons and the highest average annual unemployment rate for the 1992 calendar year according to the estimate by the State Department of Labor and Workforce Development, and one of which shall be located in the qualifying municipality in that county with the second highest annual average number of unemployed persons and the second highest average annual unemployment rate for the 1992 calendar year according to the estimate by the State Department of Labor and Workforce Development;
  - c. One zone shall be located in a county of the third class with a population greater than 84,000 and less than 92,000 according to the latest federal decennial census and shall be located in the qualifying municipality in that county with the highest annual average number of unemployed persons and the highest average annual unemployment rate for the 1992 calendar year according to the estimate by the State Department of Labor and Workforce Development;
  - d. One zone shall be located within two noncontiguous qualifying municipalities but comprised of not more than two noncontiguous areas each having a continuous border, if:
  - (1) both municipalities are located in the same county which shall be a county of the fifth class with a population greater than 500,000 and less than 555,000 according to the latest federal decennial census:
  - (2) the two municipalities submit a joint application and zone development plan; and
  - (3) each of the municipalities has a population greater than 16,000 and less than 30,000 and a population density of more than 5,000 persons per square mile, according to the latest federal decennial census; and
- e. One zone shall be located within a municipality having a population greater than 38,000 and less than 46,000 according to the latest federal decennial census if the municipality is located within a county of the fifth class with a population greater than

1 340,000 and less than 440,000 according to the latest federal decennial census.

3 (cf: P.L.2004, c.75, s.2)

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- 5 2. Section 11 of P.L.2001, c.347 (C.52:27H-66.6) is amended to read as follows:
- 7 11. a. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law, rule, regulation or order to the contrary, the designation of an enterprise 8 9 zone by the authority pursuant to P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-60 et 10 seq.), which is located in a municipality in which the annual 11 average of unemployed persons is equal to or greater than 2,000, or 12 the municipal average annual unemployment rate exceeds the State 13 average annual unemployment rate, or an enterprise zone which is 14 located in a municipality contiguous to a municipality in which an 15 enterprise zone is designated pursuant to P.L.1983, c.303 16 (C.52:27H-60 et seq.) and in which the annual average of 17 unemployed persons is equal to or greater than 2,000 or the 18 municipal average annual unemployment rate exceeds the State 19 average annual unemployment rate, shall, following the expiration 20 of the third five-year period during which the State shall have 21 collected reduced rate revenues within the zone as provided in 22 subsection c. of section 21 of P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-80), be 23 extended by the authority [, on a one-time basis,] for a period of 16 24 years, within 90 days after the effective date of P.L.2001, c.347 25 (C.52:27H-66.2 et al.), or within 90 days after the expiration of that 26 third five-year period, whichever is later.
  - b. During the 90-day period provided for in subsection a. of this section, the authority shall notify all qualified businesses in the enterprise zone that the benefits authorized by sections 16 through 20 of P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-75 through C.52:27H-79) shall be extended to qualified businesses in the enterprise zone commencing with the designation of the extended enterprise zone and continuing as long as a zone retains its designation as an extended enterprise zone.
- 35 c. Notwithstanding [any other] the provisions of any law, rule or regulation to the contrary, 90 days after the expiration of the 36 37 period provided for in subsection c. of section 21 of P.L.1983, c.303 38 (C.52:27H-80), except as provided in subsection b. of section 6 of 39 P.L.1996, c.124 (C.13:1E-116.6), and after first depositing 10 40 percent of the gross amount of all revenues received from the 41 taxation of retail sales made by certified vendors from business 42 locations in an extended enterprise zone designated pursuant to 43 subsection a. of this section, to which this exemption shall apply 44 into the account created in the name of the authority in the 45 enterprise zone assistance fund established pursuant to section 29 of 46 P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-88), the remaining 90 percent shall be

deposited immediately upon collection by the Department of the Treasury, as follows:

- (1) In the first five-year period during which the State shall have collected reduced rate revenues within the extended enterprise zone, **[**all such**]** those revenues shall be deposited in the enterprise zone assistance fund <sup>1</sup> [created pursuant to section 29 of P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-88)**]**<sup>1</sup>;
- (2) In the second five-year period during which the State shall have collected reduced rate revenues within the extended enterprise zone, 66 [2/3%] and 2/3 percent of [all] those revenues shall be deposited in the enterprise zone assistance fund, and 33 [1/3%] and 1/3 percent shall be deposited in the General Fund;
- (3) In the third five-year period during which the State shall have collected reduced rate revenues within the extended enterprise zone, 33 [1/3%] and 1/3 percent of [all] those revenues shall be deposited in the enterprise zone assistance fund, and 66 [2/3%] and 2/3 percent shall be deposited in the General Fund;
- (4) In the **[**final**]** <u>sixteenth</u> year during which the State shall have collected reduced rate revenues within the extended enterprise zone, but not to exceed the life of the enterprise zone, **[**all**]** those revenues shall be deposited in the General Fund.

The revenues required to be deposited in the enterprise zone assistance fund [under] <u>pursuant to</u> this section shall be used for the purposes of [that] <u>the enterprise</u> <sup>1</sup>[urban] <u>zone</u> <sup>1</sup> <u>assistance</u> fund and for the uses prescribed in section 29 of P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-88), subject to annual appropriations being made for those purposes and uses.

d. The designation as an extended enterprise zone pursuant to this section shall terminate if the authority determines that the municipality in which the zone is located fails to meet the criteria of subsection a. of this section for three consecutive years. Any enterprise zone which loses its designation as an extended enterprise zone pursuant to this subsection shall be eligible to reapply to the authority for designation as an extended enterprise zone pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-60 et seq.). If the authority approves its application, an urban enterprise zone designation may be extended to the applicant in accordance with the schedules set forth in P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-60 et seq.), beginning at the point where the enterprise zone was located on [such] those schedules on the effective date of P.L.2001, c.347 (C.52:27H-66.2 et al.).

42 (cf: P.L.2001, c.347, s.11)

<sup>1</sup>[3. New section) a. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, the duration of the first five enterprise zones that were designated pursuant to P.L.1983, c.303

- (C.52:27H-60 et seq.) are hereby extended for a period commencing on the effective date of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) and ending on September 30, 2019. This extension shall be in addition to the extension provided for in section 11 of P.L.2001, c.347 (C.52:27H-66.6).
- b. The authority shall notify all qualified businesses in the enterprise zones extended pursuant to subsection a. of this section that the benefits authorized by sections 16 through 20 of P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-75 through C.52:27H-79) and by section 23 of P.L.2004, c.65 (C.52:27H-87.1) have been extended to qualified businesses, and the exemption provided by section 21 of P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-80) will remain in effect for retail sales made by a certified seller from a place of business, in the enterprise zones for a period commencing on the effective date of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill) and ending on September 30, 2019.
  - c. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, after first depositing 10 percent of the gross amount of all revenues received from the taxation of retail sales made by qualified businesses from business locations in each enterprise zone, to which this exemption shall apply, into the account created in the name of the authority in the enterprise zone assistance fund established pursuant to section 29 of P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-88), the remaining 90 percent shall be deposited immediately in the General Fund upon collection by the Department of the Treasury.
  - d. The revenues required to be deposited in the enterprise zone assistance fund pursuant to subsection c. of this section shall be used for the purposes of the assistance fund and for the uses prescribed in section 29 of P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-88), subject to annual appropriations being made for those purposes and uses.  $1^{1}$

<sup>1</sup>[4. (New section) In addition to the duties of the authority required pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-65), and any other provisions of law, the authority shall undertake a review and analysis of the Urban Enterprise Zone program created pursuant to the "New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zones Act," P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-60 et seq.), and shall report the findings and recommendations of the authority to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature, no later than the date the Governor transmits the budget message for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 to the Legislature. The authority may enter into an agreement with a third party, including, but not limited to, a public institution of higher education in the State or an independent consulting firm, for purposes of preparing all or part of the report. The report shall include, but not be limited to, an assessment of the following aspects of the "New

- Jersey Urban Enterprise Zones Act," P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-60 et seq.):
- a. the appropriateness of the criteria evaluated when designating an enterprise zone or UEZ-impacted business district;
- b. any additional criteria that should be considered when
  making or reviewing an enterprise zone designation;
- c. whether the designation of a new, or the de-designation of an existing, enterprise zone or UEZ-impacted business district furthers the goals of the "New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zones Act," and if so, the municipalities, zones, or districts that should be designated or de-designated;
  - d. impediments to obtaining an enterprise zone or UEZimpacted business district designation, or to de-designating an existing enterprise zone or district;
  - e. the economic, employment, and demographic effects attributable to the expiration of the first five enterprise zones;
    - f. business participation rates; and
  - g. whether an alternative, location-based program to assist fiscally distressed municipalities is appropriate, and if so, the parameters of such a program that would provide a sufficient return on State investment.  $\mathbf{I}^1$

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- 23 <sup>1</sup>3. (New section) a. The Department of Community Affairs 24 shall study the Urban Enterprise Zone program and submit to the 25 Legislature a report and recommendations as to whether the program shall continue as is, be amended, or expire. The 26 department may enter into an agreement with a third party, 27 28 including but not limited to a public institution of higher education 29 in the State or an independent consulting firm, to conduct the study 30 and prepare the report. The Commissioner of Community Affairs, 31 after consulting with the State Treasurer, and prior to the first day 32 of the twelfth month next following the date of enactment of 33 P.L., c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), 34 shall submit to the Legislature the report on the Urban Enterprise 35 Zone program and the department's recommendations as to whether the program shall be continued, as it exists on the effective date of 36 37 P.L., c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), be continued with specific recommended changes, or be 38 39 reconstituted.
  - b. The study, report, and recommendations required pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall include, but not be limited to, an assessment of the following aspects of the Urban Enterprise Zone program:
- 44 (1) the adequacy of past funding for urban enterprise zones in 45 furthering the goals of the "New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zones 46 Act";

- 1 (2) whether changes are needed to address future funding for urban enterprise zones in furthering these goals;
- (3) whether the criteria established for eligibility to assist
  fiscally distressed municipalities is appropriate; and
- 5 (4) what parameters shall be established to keep urban 6 enterprise zone municipalities competitive while providing a 7 sufficient return on State investment.
- c. The New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zone Authority shall fund the cost of conducting the study and preparing the report on the Urban Enterprise Zone program from the account maintained, pursuant to section 29 of P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-88), in the name of the authority in the enterprise zone assistance fund.
- d. (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of any law, rule, regulation, or order to the contrary, each enterprise zone that expired prior to the effective date of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) is hereby reinstated until December 31, 2023.
- 18 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of any law, rule, regulation, 19 or order to the contrary, the duration of each enterprise zone that is 20 scheduled to expire prior to December 31, 2023 is hereby extended 21 until December 31, 2023.
- 22 (3) Any extension or reinstatement granted pursuant to this 23 subsection shall occur notwithstanding the extension provided for in 24 section 11 of P.L.2001, c.347 (C.52:27H-66.6).
- e. As necessary, the authority shall notify all qualified businesses in the enterprise zones reinstated or extended pursuant to subsection d. of this section that the benefits authorized by sections 16 through 20 of P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-75 through C.52:27H-79) have been reinstated or extended to qualified businesses in the enterprise zones until December 31, 2023.
- f. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law, rule, regulation, or order to the contrary, all reduced-rate revenues collected within an enterprise zone which is reinstated or extended pursuant to subsection d. of this section shall be deposited into the General Fund. 1

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39 29. a. There is created an enterprise zone assistance fund to be 40 held by the State Treasurer, which shall be the repository for all 41 moneys required to be deposited therein under section 21 of 42 P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-80) or moneys appropriated annually to 43 the fund. All moneys deposited in the fund shall be held and 44 disbursed in the amounts necessary to fulfill the purposes of this 45 section and subject to the requirements hereinafter prescribed. The 46 State Treasurer may invest and reinvest any moneys in the fund, or 47 any portion thereof, in legal obligations of the United States or of the State or of any political subdivision thereof. Any income from, interest on, or increment to moneys so invested or reinvested shall be included in the fund.

The State Treasurer shall maintain separate accounts for each enterprise zone designated under P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-60 et seq.), and one in the authority's name for the administration of the Urban Enterprise Zone program. The State Treasurer shall credit to each account an amount of the moneys deposited in the fund equal to the amount of revenues collected from the taxation of retail sales made in the zone and appropriated to the enterprise zone assistance fund, or that amount of moneys appropriated to the fund and required to be credited to the enterprise zone account of the qualifying municipality pursuant to section 21 of P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-80).

The State Treasurer shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary to govern the administration of the fund for the purposes of this section, which shall include, but not be limited to, regulations requiring the establishment of separate bank accounts for funds credited to the enterprise zone account of each municipality from the enterprise zone assistance fund, commonly known as "first generation funds," and funds generated from the repayments of loans to individuals and businesses from the enterprise zone account of each municipality and the proceeds from the sale of properties and equipment acquired through the enterprise zone program, commonly known as "second generation funds," and the review, compilation, and monitoring of second generation fund quarterly reports submitted by each enterprise zone.

Any individual, including an individual who is not directly employed by a municipality, with the authority to administer, allocate or approve the use of zone assistance funds is subject to the "Local Government Ethics Law," P.L.1991, c.29 (C.40A:9-22.1 et seq.), unless the individual is a State employee or a special State officer.

- b. The enterprise zone assistance fund shall be used for the purpose of assisting qualifying municipalities in which enterprise zones are designated in undertaking [public improvements,] economic development projects [and in upgrading eligible municipal services] in designated enterprise zones.
- c. The governing body of a qualifying municipality in which an enterprise zone is designated and the zone development corporation created or designated by the municipality for that enterprise zone may, by resolution jointly adopted after public hearing, propose to undertake [a] an economic development project [for the public improvement of the enterprise zone or to increase eligible municipal services] in the enterprise zone, and to fund that project [or increase in eligible municipal services] from moneys deposited in

the enterprise zone assistance fund and credited to the account maintained by the State Treasurer for the enterprise zone.

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The proposal so adopted shall set forth a plan for the project [or for the increase in eligible municipal services] and shall include:

- (1) A description of the proposed project [or of the municipal services to be increased];
- (2) An estimate of the total project costs [, or of the total costs of increasing the municipal services], and an estimate of the amounts of funding necessary annually from the enterprise zone account;
- (3) A statement of any other revenue sources to be used to finance the project [or to fund the increase in eligible municipal services];
- (4) A statement of the time necessary to complete the project **[**, or of the time during which the increased municipal services are to be maintained **]**;
- (5) A statement of the manner in which the proposed project [or increase in municipal services] furthers the municipality's policy and intentions for addressing [the] economic [and social conditions existing] development in the [area of the] enterprise zone as set forth in the zone development plan approved by the authority; and
- (6) A description of the financial and programmatic controls and reporting mechanisms to be used to guarantee that the funds will be spent in accordance with the plan and that the project [or increased municipal service] will accomplish its purpose.

As used in this section, "project" means an activity funded by the zone assistance fund through the qualified municipality and implemented by the zone development corporation, [including the purchasing, leasing, condemning, or otherwise acquiring of land or other property, or an interest therein, in the enterprise zone or as necessary for a right-of-way or other easement to or from the enterprise zone; the relocating and moving of persons or businesses displaced by the acquisition of land or property; the rehabilitation and redevelopment of land or property, including demolition, clearance, removal, relocation, renovation, alteration, construction, reconstruction, installation or repair of land or a building, street, highway, alley, utility, service or other structure or improvement] which will lead to the creation of new jobs and increased economic activity within the zone [; the purchase and installation of closed circuit television surveillance systems or other related equipment and those expenses associated with homeland security and domestic the acquisition, construction, preparedness; reconstruction, rehabilitation, or installation of public facilities and improvements, except buildings and facilities for the general conduct of government and schools; ], such as: the establishment of revolving

1 loan [or grant] programs for qualified businesses in the zone to 2 encourage private investment and job creation, [matching grant 3 programs for the establishment or operation of pedestrian malls, 4 special improvement districts and tax increment districts, or other 5 appropriate entity; and marketing, advertising and special event 6 activities that will lead to increased economic activity or encourage 7 private investment and job creation in the zone, but not including 8 the expenditures therefor which are required to be reported pursuant 9 to "The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures 10 Reporting Act," P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et al.) and the costs 11 associated therewith including the costs of [an administrative 12 appraisal, economic and environmental ] analyses 13 environmental remediation, engineering, planning, design, 14 architectural, surveying or other professional or managerial 15 services].

[As used in this section, "eligible municipal services" means the hiring of additional policemen or firemen assigned duties in the enterprise zone, or the purchasing or leasing of additional police or fire vehicles, equipment or apparatus to be used for the provision of augmented or upgraded public safety services in the enterprise zone and its immediate vicinities.]

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- d. Upon adoption by the governing body of the qualifying municipality and by the zone development corporation, the proposal shall be sent to the authority for its evaluation and approval. The authority shall approve the proposal if it shall find  $\mathbf{I}$ :
- (1) In the case of a project, **]** that the proposed project furthers the policy and intentions of the zone development plan approved by the authority, and that the estimated annual payments for the project from the enterprise zone account to which the proposal pertains are not likely to result in a deficit in that account **[**;
- (2) In the case of an increase in eligible municipal services, that the proposal furthers the policy and intentions of the zone development plan approved by the authority; that the qualifying municipality has furnished satisfactory assurances that the additional policemen or firemen to be hired, or the additional vehicles, equipment or apparatus to be purchased or leased, shall be used to augment or upgrade public safety in the enterprise zone, and shall not be used in other areas of the municipality; that the qualifying municipality shall annually appropriate for the increased eligible municipal services an amount equal to 20% of the amount of annual payments for the eligible municipal services from the enterprise zone account and shall not request for the increased eligible municipal services an amount equal to more than 35% of the amount of annual payments into the enterprise zone account, unless the municipality and the authority have entered into an agreement or agreements to the contrary prior to July 1, 1992; and

that the estimated annual payments for the eligible municipal services from the enterprise zone account to which the proposal pertains are not likely to result in a deficit in that account ].

- e. If the authority shall approve the proposal, it shall annually, upon its receipt of a written statement from the governing body of the qualifying municipality and the zone development corporation, certify to the State Treasurer the amount to be paid in that year from the enterprise zone account in the enterprise zone assistance fund with respect to each <u>approved</u> project [or increase in eligible municipal services approved]. The authority may at any time revoke its approval of a project [or an increase in eligible municipal services] if it finds that the annual payments made from the enterprise zone assistance fund are not being used as required by this section.
- f. Upon certification by the authority of the annual amount to be paid to a qualifying zone with respect to any project [or increase in eligible municipal services], the State Treasurer shall pay in each year to the qualifying municipality from the amounts deposited in the enterprise zone assistance fund the amount so certified, within the limits of the amounts credited to the enterprise zone account of the qualifying municipality.
- g. An amount not to exceed one-third of the amount deposited in the account created in the name of the authority in the enterprise zone assistance fund shall be used by the authority for the coordination and administration of the program throughout the State, including but not limited to costs for personnel, operating expenses and marketing. The balance of the remaining amount shall be distributed to qualifying municipalities in proportion to each municipality's contribution to the enterprise zone assistance fund for the coordination and administration of the program within the municipality, including but not limited to costs for personnel, operating expenses and marketing.<sup>1</sup>

(cf: P.L.2009, c.25, s.1)

5. This act shall take effect immediately.

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40 Reinstates and extends duration of certain UEZs; requires DCA 41 to study UEZ program and report recommendations to the 42 Legislature.