

SENATE, No. 469

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2018 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator ROBERT W. SINGER

District 30 (Monmouth and Ocean)

Senator VIN GOPAL

District 11 (Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

“P.I.C.K. Awareness Act”; authorizes issuance of special support recovery license plates.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/27/2018)

1 AN ACT authorizing the issuance of support recovery license plates,
2 designated as the “P.I.C.K. Awareness Act,” and supplementing
3 chapter 3 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes.
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:
7

8 1. a. Upon proper application, the Chief Administrator of the
9 New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission shall issue support
10 recovery license plates for any motor vehicle owned or leased and
11 registered in this State. In addition to the registration number and
12 other markings or identification otherwise prescribed by law, the
13 license plates shall display an emblem, consisting of an image of a
14 compass rose with cardinal direction indicators enclosed in a circle,
15 and the words “SUPPORT RECOVERY” beneath the image. The
16 chief administrator shall, in consultation with the Commissioner of
17 Human Services and Parents in Connection for Kids, Inc., select the
18 design and color scheme of the support recovery license plates. The
19 support recovery license plates shall be subject to the provisions of
20 chapter 3 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes, except as hereinafter
21 otherwise specifically provided.

22 b. Application for issuance of support recovery license plates
23 shall be made to the chief administrator on forms and in a manner
24 prescribed by the chief administrator. In order to be deemed
25 complete, an application shall be accompanied by a fee of \$50,
26 payable to the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, which shall
27 be in addition to the fees otherwise prescribed by law for the
28 registration of a motor vehicle. The chief administrator shall collect
29 annually, subsequent to the year of issuance of the support recovery
30 license plates, a \$10 fee for the license plates in addition to the fees
31 otherwise prescribed by law for the registration of a motor vehicle.
32 The additional fees required by this subsection shall be deposited in
33 the “Support Recovery License Plate Fund” created pursuant to
34 subsection c. of this section.

35 c. There is created in the Department of the Treasury a special
36 non-lapsing fund to be known as the “Support Recovery License
37 Plate Fund.” There shall be deposited in the fund the amount
38 collected from all license plate fees collected pursuant to subsection
39 b. of this section, less the amounts necessary to reimburse the
40 commission for administrative costs pursuant to subsection d. of
41 this section. Monies deposited in the fund shall be appropriated
42 annually to the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services
43 within the Department of Human Services to be used to secure
44 permanent sober living housing for individuals who have completed
45 substance abuse treatment or temporary sober living housing for
46 individuals waiting to be placed in a substance abuse treatment
47 program. Monies appropriated to the division shall not be provided
48 to any individual seeking housing assistance but may be provided to

1 housing facilities to be used as deposits or monthly rent payments
2 for individuals seeking housing assistance. Monies deposited in the
3 fund shall be held in interest-bearing accounts in public depositories
4 as defined pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1970, c.236 (C.17:9-41), and
5 may be invested or reinvested in securities approved by the State
6 Treasurer. Interest or other income earned on monies deposited into
7 the fund, and any monies which may be appropriated or otherwise
8 become available for the purposes of the fund, shall be credited to
9 and deposited in the fund for use as set forth in P.L. , c. (C.)
10 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

11 d. Prior to the deposit of the additional fees collected pursuant
12 to subsection b. of this section into the "Support Recovery License
13 Plate Fund," amounts thereof as are necessary shall be used to
14 reimburse the commission for all costs reasonably and actually
15 incurred, as stipulated by the chief administrator, for:

16 (1) designing, producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing the
17 availability of the support recovery license plates; and

18 (2) any computer programming changes that may be initially
19 necessary to implement the support recovery license plate program
20 in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

21 The chief administrator shall annually certify to the State
22 Treasurer the average cost per license plate incurred in the
23 immediately preceding year by the commission in producing,
24 issuing, renewing, and publicizing the availability of the support
25 recovery license plates. The annual certification of the average cost
26 per license plate shall be approved by the Joint Budget Oversight
27 Committee, or its successor.

28 In the event that the average cost per license plate as certified by
29 the chief administrator and approved by the Joint Budget Oversight
30 Committee, or its successor, is greater than the \$50 application fee
31 established in subsection b. of this section in two consecutive fiscal
32 years, the chief administrator may discontinue the issuance of
33 support recovery license plates.

34 e. The chief administrator shall notify eligible motorists of the
35 opportunity to obtain support recovery license plates by publicizing
36 the availability of the license plates on the commission's website.
37 The Department of Human Services, and any other individual or
38 entity designated by the Department of Human Services, may
39 publicize the availability of the support recovery license plates in
40 any manner that the department deems appropriate.

41 f. The chief administrator and the Commissioner of Human
42 Services shall develop and enter into an interdepartmental
43 memorandum of agreement setting forth the procedures to be
44 followed in carrying out their respective responsibilities under
45 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

46 g. The Commissioner of Human Services shall appoint a
47 representative who shall act as a liaison between the Department of
48 Human Services and the commission. The liaison shall represent

1 the department in any and all communications with the commission
2 regarding the support recovery license plates established by P.L. ,
3 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

4
5 2. a. State or public funds shall not be used by the
6 commission for the initial cost of:

7 (1) designing, producing, issuing, and publicizing the availability
8 of support recovery license plates; or

9 (2) any computer programming changes which may be necessary
10 to implement the support recovery license plate program established
11 by P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this
12 bill).

13 b. An individual or entity designated by the Department of
14 Human Services, shall contribute non-public monies in an amount
15 to be determined by the chief administrator, not to exceed a total of
16 \$25,000, to be used to offset the initial costs incurred by the
17 commission for designing, producing, issuing, and publicizing the
18 availability of support recovery license plates, and any computer
19 programming which may be necessary to implement the program.
20 Concerned organizations and individual donors may contribute
21 monies to the Department of Human Services to be used to offset
22 the initial costs incurred by the commission for the support recovery
23 license plates authorized by P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
24 the Legislature as this bill). Any amount remaining after the
25 payment of the initial cost shall be deposited in the "Support
26 Recovery License Plate Fund" established pursuant to subsection c.
27 of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
28 Legislature as this bill).

29 c. The commission shall not begin designing, producing,
30 issuing, or publicizing the availability of support recovery license
31 plates, or making any necessary programming changes, until the
32 following requirements have been met:

33 (1) The individual or entity designated by the Department of
34 Human Services, has provided the commission with the money
35 necessary, as determined by the chief administrator pursuant to
36 subsection b. of this section, to offset the initial costs incurred by
37 the commission in establishing the support recovery license plate
38 program; and

39 (2) The liaison appointed by the Commissioner of Human
40 Services pursuant to subsection g. of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.)
41 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) has provided the
42 commission with not less than 500 completed applications for
43 support recovery license plates. These applications shall constitute
44 the initial order for support recovery license plates and shall be
45 accompanied by a fee representing the total cost of the initial order.
46 The fee shall be determined by multiplying the number of sets of
47 license plates being ordered by the applicable initial fee for each set

1 of license plates as set forth in subsection b. of section 1 of P.L. ,
2 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

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4 3. This act shall take effect immediately, but shall remain
5 inoperative until the first day of the seventh month following the
6 date on which the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2) of
7 subsection c. of section 2 of this act have been satisfied. The chief
8 administrator may take anticipatory acts in advance of that date as
9 may be necessary for the timely implementation of this act. This
10 act shall expire if the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2)
11 of subsection c. of section 2 of this act are not satisfied by the last
12 day of the 12th month following enactment.

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15 STATEMENT

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17 This bill, designated as the “P.I.C.K. Awareness Act,” authorizes
18 the Chief Administrator (chief administrator) of the New Jersey
19 Motor Vehicle Commission (commission) to issue special support
20 recovery license plates.

21 Parents in Connection for Kids, Inc., commonly known as
22 P.I.C.K. Awareness, is a non-profit organization that seeks to
23 provide substance abuse treatment resources and referrals and
24 substance abuse awareness and prevention education to parents of
25 children with alcohol and drug addictions. The Division of Mental
26 Health and Addiction Services (division) within the Department of
27 Human Services (department) provides and partners with various
28 non-profit organizations to provide recovery support services,
29 which are non-clinical services that that facilitate recovery and
30 wellness to improve the quality of life of individuals with drug and
31 alcohol addiction and their families. It is the sponsor’s intent that
32 this bill will reduce homelessness as a barrier to recovery and will
33 provide a sustainable funding source for indigent individuals with
34 alcohol and drug addictions who are in an emergent situation or
35 crisis and need housing in a sober living environment to reduce
36 relapse by assisting individuals break the cycle of addiction.

37 The bill provides that the design of the support recovery license
38 plate is to display an emblem, consisting of an image of a compass
39 rose with cardinal direction indicators enclosed in a circle, and the
40 words “SUPPORT RECOVERY” beneath the image. The chief
41 administrator is to, in consultation with the Commissioner of
42 Human Services and Parents in Connection for Kids, Inc., select the
43 design and color scheme of the support recovery license plates.

44 In addition to all fees otherwise required by law for the
45 registration of a motor vehicle, there is an application fee of \$50
46 and an annual renewal fee of \$10 for the support recovery license
47 plates. After the deduction of the cost of designing, producing,
48 issuing, renewing, and publicizing the plates and of any computer

1 programming changes that are necessary to implement the license
2 plate program, in an amount not to exceed \$150,000, the additional
3 fees will be deposited into a special non-lapsing fund known as the
4 “Support Recovery License Plate Fund.” The proceeds of the fund
5 are to be annually appropriated to the division to be used to secure
6 permanent sober living housing for individuals who have completed
7 substance abuse treatment or temporary sober living housing for
8 individuals waiting to be placed in a substance abuse treatment
9 program. The proceeds of the fund that are to be appropriated to
10 the division are not to be provided to any individual seeking
11 housing assistance but may be provided to housing facilities to be
12 used as deposits or monthly rent payments for individuals seeking
13 housing assistance.

14 The chief administrator is required to annually certify the
15 average cost of producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing the
16 availability of the specialty license plates. If the average cost per
17 plate exceeds \$50 in two consecutive fiscal years, the chief
18 administrator may discontinue the support recovery license plate
19 program. The bill also requires that the Commissioner of Human
20 Services appoint a liaison to represent the department in all
21 communications with the commission regarding the support
22 recovery license plates.

23 The bill provides that State or other public funds are not to be
24 used by the commission for the initial cost to implement the support
25 recovery license plate program. The bill requires an individual or
26 entity designated by the department, to contribute non-public
27 monies, not to exceed \$25,000, to offset the initial costs to design,
28 produce, issue, and publicize the license plates. The bill authorizes
29 the department to receive funds from private sources to be used to
30 offset the initial costs.

31 The chief administrator is not required to design, produce, issue,
32 or publicize the availability of the support recovery license plates,
33 until: (1) the individual or entity designated by the department has
34 provided the commission with the money necessary to offset the
35 initial costs incurred by the commission in establishing the support
36 recovery license plate program; and (2) the department’s liaison has
37 provided the commission with a minimum of 500 completed
38 applications for the support recovery license plates.

39 The provisions of the bill will remain inoperative until the
40 appropriate applications and fees required to offset the initial costs
41 incurred by the commission are provided by the department’s
42 liaison. The bill expires after 12 months if sufficient applications
43 and fees to offset the initial costs are not received.