

SENATE, No. 3585

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 7, 2019

Sponsored by:

Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY

District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

Senator DAWN MARIE ADDIEGO

District 8 (Atlantic, Burlington and Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Greenstein

SYNOPSIS

Establishes Office of Homelessness Prevention; appropriates \$3 million to DCA.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/15/2019)

1 AN ACT establishing an Office of Homelessness Prevention in the
2 Department of Community Affairs, supplementing Title 52 of the
3 Revised Statutes, amending various parts of the statutory law,
4 and making an appropriation.

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

8
9 1. (New section) a. There is hereby established within the
10 Department of Community Affairs an Office of Homelessness
11 Prevention to coordinate among State and local agencies and private
12 organizations that provide services to persons who are homeless or
13 at risk for homelessness, and to implement a Statewide strategy to
14 address homelessness.

15 b. The office shall be under the immediate supervision of a
16 director, who shall be a person qualified by training and experience
17 to direct the work of such office. The Commissioner of Community
18 Affairs shall appoint the director, who shall serve at the pleasure of
19 the commissioner. The director shall administer the work of the
20 office under the direction of the commissioner and shall perform
21 such other functions of the department as the commissioner may
22 prescribe.

23 c. In addition to other functions, powers, and duties vested in
24 the Department of Community Affairs by P.L. , c. (C.)
25 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) or by any other law, the
26 Department of Community Affairs shall, through the Office of
27 Homelessness Prevention:

28 (1) Collect, maintain, and make available information
29 concerning persons who are homeless or at risk for homelessness,
30 including demographics information, current services and resources
31 available, the cost and availability of services and programs, and the
32 met and unmet needs of this population. All entities that receive
33 State, county, or municipal funding shall provide the office access
34 to all data they maintain;

35 (2) Evaluate State and local services and resources and develop,
36 implement, and revise, as necessary, a consolidated plan for
37 addressing the needs of persons who are homeless or at risk for
38 homelessness;

39 (3) Explore, compile, and disseminate information regarding
40 public and private funding sources for State and local programs
41 serving persons who are homeless;

42 (4) Assess and provide recommendations for coordinating the
43 activities of State programs, including multi-State programs, and
44 local coalitions for persons who are homeless and promote the

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.

1 effectiveness of programs addressing the needs of persons who are
2 homeless;

3 (5) Convene meetings and workshops of State and local
4 agencies, local coalitions and programs, and other stakeholders for
5 developing and reviewing policies, services, activities,
6 coordination, and funding of efforts to meet the needs of persons
7 who are homeless, including training, counseling, and navigation
8 services essential to enable persons who are homeless to make the
9 transition to permanent housing; and

10 (6) Conduct or promote research on the effectiveness of
11 programs addressing the needs of persons who are homeless.

12 d. All State, county, and municipal departments and agencies
13 shall, upon request, make every reasonable effort to assist the
14 Office of Homelessness Prevention in carrying out the office's
15 functions, powers, and duties.

16 e. (1) On the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
17 before the Legislature as this bill), the Office of Homelessness
18 Prevention shall have access to all information in the Homeless
19 Management Information System administered in the New Jersey
20 Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency.

21 (2) The Homeless Management Information System,
22 administered in the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance
23 Agency, including any personnel charged with administering and
24 maintaining the Homeless Management Information System, may
25 be transferred to the Office of Homelessness Prevention. If the
26 Homeless Management Information System is transferred pursuant
27 to this paragraph, all appropriations, grants, and other moneys
28 available and to become available to the New Jersey Housing and
29 Mortgage Finance Agency, which the agency uses for the
30 maintenance and administration of the Homeless Management
31 Information System, shall be transferred to the Office of
32 Homelessness Prevention.

33

34 2. (New section) a. The Legislature finds and declares that it is
35 in the public interest for State policymakers, providers of services
36 to people who are homeless, advocacy organizations, and other
37 concerned representatives of the public to engage in an intensive
38 collaborative effort to seek to devise more effective means of
39 coordinating and funding programs to meet the needs of persons
40 within New Jersey who are homeless or at risk for homelessness.

41 b. There is established the "New Jersey Homelessness
42 Prevention Task Force." The purpose of the task force shall be to
43 serve as an advisory body to the Office of Homelessness Prevention
44 in the Department of Community Affairs, to develop
45 recommendations, through an intensive collaborative effort among
46 representatives of State government, providers of services to the
47 homeless, advocacy organizations, and other concerned
48 representatives of the public, and to develop, promote, and support

1 efforts for the most effective means of coordinating and funding
2 programs to meet the various needs of persons within this State who
3 are homeless or at risk for homelessness.

4 c. The task force shall consist of 15 members including the
5 Director of the Office of Homelessness Prevention in the
6 Department of Community Affairs, or the director's designee, and
7 fourteen members, who shall be appointed by the Governor no later
8 than the 60th day after the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.)
9 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), and who may be
10 government officials or members of the public with a demonstrated
11 expertise in issues relating to the work of the task force.

12 d. The Director of the Office of Homelessness Prevention, or
13 the director's designee, shall serve as chairperson of the task force.
14 The task force shall organize as soon as practicable following the
15 appointment of its members and shall select a vice-chairperson from
16 among the members. The chairperson shall appoint a secretary who
17 need not be a member of the task force.

18 e. The public members shall serve without compensation, but
19 shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the
20 performance of their duties and within the limits of funds available
21 to the task force.

22 f. The task force shall be entitled to call to its assistance and
23 avail itself of the services of the employees of any State, county or
24 municipal department, board, bureau, commission, or agency as it
25 may require and as may be available to it for its purposes.

26 g. The task force may meet and hold hearings at the places it
27 designates during the sessions or recesses of the Legislature.

28 h. The Department of Community Affairs shall provide staff
29 support to the task force.

30 i. Vacancies in the membership of the task force shall be filled
31 in the same manner provided for the original appointments.

32

33 3. Section 4 of P.L.1999, c.224 (C.9:12A-5) is amended to read
34 as follows:

35 4. The department shall establish and support a comprehensive
36 program for homeless youth in the State by contracting with
37 organizations and agencies, licensed by the department, that provide
38 street outreach or basic center shelter or transitional living services
39 for homeless youth. The department shall establish licensure
40 requirements and shall contract for programs that ensure that
41 services, as specified by this act, are provided to homeless youth in
42 the State in an appropriate and responsible manner. The
43 commissioner may establish such other requirements for the
44 homeless youth programs as he deems necessary. On or before
45 December 31 of each year, the department shall provide to the
46 Office of Homelessness Prevention in the Department of
47 Community Affairs a list of organizations and agencies
48 participating in the program and any available information in the

1 possession of the department concerning persons who are homeless
2 or at risk for homelessness in accordance with any applicable
3 privacy, security, and data quality standards.
4 (cf: P.L.1999, s.224, s.4)

5

6 4. N.J.S.18A:38-1 is amended to read as follows:

7 18A:38-1. Public schools shall be free to the following persons
8 over five and under 20 years of age:

9 a. Any person who is domiciled within the school district;

10 b. (1) Any person who is kept in the home of another person
11 domiciled within the school district and is supported by such other
12 person gratis as if he were such other person's own child, upon
13 filing by such other person with the secretary of the board of
14 education of the district, if so required by the board, a sworn
15 statement that he is domiciled within the district and is supporting
16 the child gratis and will assume all personal obligations for the
17 child relative to school requirements and that he intends so to keep
18 and support the child gratuitously for a longer time than merely
19 through the school term, and a copy of his lease if a tenant, or a
20 sworn statement by his landlord acknowledging his tenancy if
21 residing as a tenant without a written lease, and upon filing by the
22 child's parent or guardian with the secretary of the board of
23 education a sworn statement that he is not capable of supporting or
24 providing care for the child due to a family or economic hardship
25 and that the child is not residing with the resident of the district
26 solely for the purpose of receiving a free public education within
27 the district. The statement shall be accompanied by documentation
28 to support the validity of the sworn statements, information from or
29 about which shall be supplied only to the board and only to the
30 extent that it directly pertains to the support or nonsupport of the
31 child. If in the judgment of the board of education the evidence
32 does not support the validity of the claim by the resident, the board
33 may deny admission to the child. The resident may contest the
34 board's decision to the commissioner within 21 days of the date of
35 the decision and shall be entitled to an expedited hearing before the
36 commissioner on the validity of the claim and shall have the burden
37 of proof by a preponderance of the evidence that the child is eligible
38 for a free education under the criteria listed in this subsection. The
39 board of education shall, at the time of its decision, notify the
40 resident in writing of his right to contest the board's decision to the
41 commissioner within 21 days. No child shall be denied admission
42 during the pendency of the proceedings before the commissioner.
43 In the event the child is currently enrolled in the district, the student
44 shall not be removed from school during the 21-day period in which
45 the resident may contest the board's decision nor during the
46 pendency of the proceedings before the commissioner. If in the
47 judgment of the commissioner the evidence does not support the
48 claim of the resident, he shall assess the resident tuition for the

1 student prorated to the time of the student's ineligible attendance in
2 the school district. Tuition shall be computed on the basis of 1/180
3 of the total annual per pupil cost to the local district multiplied by
4 the number of days of ineligible attendance and shall be collected in
5 the manner in which orders of the commissioner are enforced.
6 Nothing shall preclude a board from collecting tuition from the
7 resident, parent or guardian for a student's period of ineligible
8 attendance in the schools of the district where the issue is not
9 appealed to the commissioner;

10 (2) If the superintendent or administrative principal of a school
11 district finds that the parent or guardian of a child who is attending
12 the schools of the district is not domiciled within the district and the
13 child is not kept in the home of another person domiciled within the
14 school district and supported by him gratis as if the child was the
15 person's own child as provided for in paragraph (1) of this
16 subsection, the superintendent or administrative principal may
17 apply to the board of education for the removal of the child. The
18 parent or guardian shall be entitled to a hearing before the board
19 and if in the judgment of the board the parent or guardian is not
20 domiciled within the district or the child is not kept in the home of
21 another person domiciled within the school district and supported
22 by him gratis as if the child was the person's own child as provided
23 for in paragraph (1) of this subsection, the board may order the
24 transfer or removal of the child from school. The parent or
25 guardian may contest the board's decision before the commissioner
26 within 21 days of the date of the decision and shall be entitled to an
27 expedited hearing before the commissioner and shall have the
28 burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence that the child is
29 eligible for a free education under the criteria listed in this
30 subsection. The board of education shall, at the time of its decision,
31 notify the parent or guardian in writing of his right to contest the
32 decision within 21 days. No child shall be removed from school
33 during the 21-day period in which the parent may contest the
34 board's decision or during the pendency of the proceedings before
35 the commissioner. If in the judgment of the commissioner the
36 evidence does not support the claim of the parent or guardian, the
37 commissioner shall assess the parent or guardian tuition for the
38 student prorated to the time of the student's ineligible attendance in
39 the schools of the district. Tuition shall be computed on the basis
40 of 1/180 of the total annual per pupil cost to the local district
41 multiplied by the number of days of ineligible attendance and shall
42 be collected in the manner in which orders of the commissioner are
43 enforced. Nothing shall preclude a board from collecting tuition
44 from the parent or guardian for a student's period of ineligible
45 attendance in the schools of the district where the issue is not
46 appealed to the commissioner;

47 The provisions of this section requiring proof of support, custody
48 or tenancy shall not apply to a person keeping a child in his home

1 whose parent or guardian is a member of the New Jersey National
2 Guard or a member of the reserve component of the armed forces of
3 the United States and who has been ordered into active military
4 service in any of the armed forces of the United States in time of
5 war or national emergency. In such a situation, the child shall be
6 eligible to enroll in the district in which he is being kept, and no
7 tuition shall be charged by the district. Following the return of the
8 child's parent or guardian from active military service, the child's
9 eligibility for enrollment without tuition in the district in which he
10 or she is being kept shall cease at the end of the current school year;

11 c. Any person who fraudulently allows a child of another
12 person to use his residence and is not the primary financial
13 supporter of that child and any person who fraudulently claims to
14 have given up custody of his child to a person in another district
15 commits a disorderly persons offense;

16 d. Any person whose parent or guardian, even though not
17 domiciled within the district, is residing temporarily therein, but
18 any person who has had or shall have his all-year-round dwelling
19 place within the district for one year or longer shall be deemed to be
20 domiciled within the district for the purposes of this section;

21 e. Any person for whom the Division of Youth and Family
22 Services in the Department of Children and Families is acting as
23 guardian and who is placed in the district by the division;

24 f. Any person whose parent or guardian moves from one
25 school district to another school district as a result of being
26 homeless and whose district of residence is determined pursuant to
27 section 19 of P.L.1979, c.207 (C.18A:7B-12). On or before
28 December 31 of each year, a public school shall report to the Office
29 of Homelessness Prevention in the Department of Community
30 Affairs an accounting of each instance in which the public school is
31 made aware that a student enrolled in the public school because the
32 student's parent or guardian moved from one school district to
33 another school district as a result of being homeless.

34 (cf: P.L.2006, c.47, s.94)

35

36 5. R.S.26:8-63 is amended to read as follows:

37 26:8-63. The State registrar shall:

38 a. Furnish a certification or certified copy of a birth, marriage,
39 civil union, domestic partnership, fetal death or death certificate
40 without fee in the prosecution of any claim for public pension or for
41 military or naval enlistment purposes; and

42 b. Furnish the United States Public Health Service without
43 expense to the State, microfilm or photocopy images of birth,
44 marriage, civil union, domestic partnership, fetal death and death
45 certificates without payment of the fees prescribed in this article;
46 and

47 c. Furnish a certified transcript of any entry in the records of
48 the New Jersey State census without fee for certification in the

1 prosecution of any claim for public pension, for military or naval
2 enlistment purposes; and

3 d. Furnish without fee upon request for administrative use by
4 any city, State or federal agency a certified transcript of any New
5 Jersey State census entry, or a certification or certified copy of a
6 birth, death, fetal death, marriage, civil union or domestic
7 partnership certificate; and

8 e. Furnish without fee upon request a certified copy of a
9 veteran's death certificate to the veteran's legal representative, the
10 executor or administrator of the veteran's estate, or to a family
11 member authorized to obtain a copy of the death certificate pursuant
12 to subsection a. of R.S.26:8-62. No more than one copy of a
13 veteran's death certificate may be provided without fee pursuant to
14 this subsection; all other copies of the death certificate shall be
15 subject to the statutory fee; and

16 f. Furnish without fee upon request by a person who is
17 homeless **[person]** a certified copy of the person's birth certificate,
18 provided that the person submits the request through a social
19 worker or the coordinator of the emergency shelter for the homeless
20 where the person is temporarily residing. The request shall be
21 transmitted on the emergency shelter's letterhead and shall include
22 the shelter's employer identification number and an attestation by
23 the coordinator that the person requesting the certificate is currently
24 homeless and residing at the shelter or the request shall be
25 submitted on the social worker's agency or professional practice
26 letterhead and shall include the agency's or the professional
27 practice's employer identification number and an attestation by the
28 social worker that the person requesting the certificate is currently
29 homeless. A certified copy of a birth certificate furnished pursuant
30 to this subsection shall be transmitted to the social worker or
31 coordinator who transmitted the request. No more than one
32 certified copy of a birth certificate furnished to a person who is
33 homeless **[person]** pursuant to this subsection shall be provided
34 without fee; all other copies of the birth certificate shall be subject
35 to the statutory fee. On or before December 31 of each year, the
36 State Registrar shall report to the Office of Homelessness
37 Prevention in the Department of Community Affairs an accounting
38 of each instance in which the State Registrar furnished without fee a
39 certified copy of a person's birth certificate pursuant to this
40 subsection.

41 As used in this section:

42 "Fee" includes, but is not limited to, any search, certification,
43 processing, authentication, standard shipping, or other fees that
44 would ordinarily be assessed to furnish a certified copy of a
45 certificate or transcript; and

46 "Person who is homeless **[person]**" means a person without a
47 domicile who is unable to secure permanent and stable housing as
48 determined by a social worker or the coordinator of an emergency

1 shelter for the homeless established pursuant to P.L.1985, c.48
2 (C.55:13C-1 et seq.).
3 (cf: P.L.2016, c.98, s.1)
4

5 6. Section 6 of P.L.1980, c.47 (C.39:3-29.7) is amended to read
6 as follows:

7 6. a. The chief administrator shall charge fees as follows:

8 Identification Card, Original \$18

9 Identification Card, Duplicate \$5

10 Identification Card, Renewal \$18

11 Digitized picture \$6, in addition to the fees required above.

12 b. The chief administrator may waive the fees established
13 under subsection a. of this section for a person who is homeless
14 **[person]** who submits proof of temporary residence through a
15 social worker or the coordinator of an emergency shelter for the
16 homeless where the person is temporarily residing. On or before
17 December 31 of each year, the commission shall report to the Office
18 of Homelessness Prevention in the Department of Community
19 Affairs an accounting of each instance in which the commission
20 provided a fee waiver pursuant to this section. For the purposes of
21 this section, "person who is homeless **[person]**" means a person
22 without a domicile who is unable to secure permanent and stable
23 housing as determined by a social worker or the coordinator of an
24 emergency shelter for the homeless established pursuant to
25 P.L.1985, c.48 (C.55:13C-1 et seq.).

26 (cf: P.L.2016, c.99, s.1)
27

28 7. Section 1 of P.L.1982, c.56 (C.40:5-2.10b) is amended to
29 read as follows:

30 1. The governing body of a county or municipality annually
31 may appropriate funds to a private, nonprofit organization for the
32 purpose of providing services to runaway or homeless youths and
33 their families. The services may include temporary shelter, food,
34 clothing, medical care, transportation, individual and family
35 counseling, and any other service necessary to provide adequate
36 temporary, protective care for runaway or homeless youths, or to
37 aid in reuniting the youths with their parents or guardians. On or
38 before December 31 of each year, the governing body of a
39 municipality shall provide to the Office of Homelessness Prevention
40 in the Department of Community Affairs a list of nonprofit
41 organizations to which the governing body appropriated funds
42 pursuant to this section and any available information in the
43 possession of the governing body concerning persons who are
44 homeless or at risk for homelessness in accordance with any
45 applicable privacy, security, and data quality standards. For the
46 purposes of this section, "runaway or homeless youth" means a
47 person under the age of 18, who is absent from his legal residence

1 without the consent of his parents or legal guardian, or who is
2 without a place of shelter where supervision and care are available.
3 (cf: P.L.1982, c.56, s.1)

4
5 8. Section 3 of P.L.1988, c.29 (C.52:27C-24.1) is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 3. a. The Commissioner of the Department of Community
8 Affairs shall establish within the Division of Housing and
9 **【Development】** Community Resources a fund for the purpose of
10 funding programs to assist persons who are homeless pursuant to
11 subsections f. and h. of section 24 of P.L.1944, c.85 (C.52:27C-24).

12 b. The fund shall consist of moneys appropriated thereto by
13 section 4 of P.L.1988, c.29 and such other moneys as may be
14 appropriated or otherwise made available for that purpose.

15 c. Not more than 5% of moneys paid into the fund during any
16 fiscal year of the State may be used to pay the costs of the fund's
17 administration by the Department of Community Affairs during that
18 fiscal year.

19 d. Upon the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
20 before the Legislature as this bill), the fund created pursuant to
21 subsection a. of this section may be transferred from the Division of
22 Housing and Community Resources to the Office of Homelessness
23 Prevention.

24 (cf: P.L.1988, c.29, s.3)

25
26 9. Section 4 of P.L.2009, c.123 (C.52:27D-287d) is amended to
27 read as follows:

28 4. A local government, in consultation with the Office of
29 Homelessness Prevention in the Department of Community Affairs,
30 may adopt a homeless housing plan to address the housing needs of
31 persons who are homeless within its jurisdiction, which shall be in
32 accordance with the provisions of P.L.2009, c.123 (C.52:27D-287a
33 et al.). The plan shall include provisions for establishing a trust fund
34 for the purposes of receiving funds pursuant to P.L.2009, c.123
35 (C.52:27D-287a et al.), and shall evidence a strategic local scheme
36 to identify and address the needs of **【the】** persons who are homeless
37 within the jurisdiction, including strategies to reduce the need for
38 emergency room care, hospital care, law enforcement, foster care,
39 and other social services associated with **【the】** persons who are
40 homeless and homelessness.

41 (cf: P.L.2009, c.123, s.4)

42
43 10. Section 6 of P.L.2009, c.123 (C.52:27D-287f) is amended to
44 read as follows:

45 6. a. Each county shall utilize its County Homelessness Trust
46 Fund with the advice of the County Homelessness Trust Fund Task
47 Force for the operation of a homeless housing grant program. This
48 program is established in order to provide:

1 (1) for the acquisition, construction, or rehabilitation of housing
2 projects or units within housing projects that supply permanent
3 affordable housing for persons who are homeless or families,
4 including those at risk of homelessness;

5 (2) rental assistance vouchers, including tenant and project based
6 subsidies, for affordable housing projects or units within housing
7 projects that provide permanent affordable housing for persons who
8 are homeless or families, including those at risk of homelessness;

9 (3) supportive services as may be required by homeless
10 individuals or families in order to obtain or maintain, or both,
11 permanent affordable housing; and

12 (4) prevention services for at risk homeless individuals or
13 families so that they can obtain and maintain permanent affordable
14 housing.

15 b. Grants awarded by the governing body of the county shall be
16 used to support projects that:

17 (1) measurably reduce homelessness;

18 (2) demonstrate government cost savings over time;

19 (3) employ evidence-based models;

20 (4) can be replicated in other counties;

21 (5) include an outcome measurement component;

22 (6) are consistent with the local homeless housing plan; or

23 (7) fund the acquisition, construction, or rehabilitation projects
24 that will serve homeless individuals or families for a period of at
25 least 30 years or the equal to the longest term of affordability
26 required by other funding sources.

27 c. Each county that has established a County Homelessness
28 Trust Fund shall transmit information concerning the uses of the
29 funds to the **【New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency】**
30 Office of Homelessness Prevention in the Department of
31 Community Affairs in accordance with requirements established by
32 that **【agency】** office.

33 d. The governing body of a county may by resolution establish
34 a preference for veterans that gives first priority, in the distribution
35 of grants, for the benefit of homeless veterans, including those at
36 risk of homelessness.

37 (cf: P.L.2017, c.320, s.1)

38

39 11. Section 1 of P.L.2008, c.28 (C.52:27I-8.1) is amended to
40 read as follows:

41 1. In addition to the powers granted the authority pursuant to
42 section 8 of P.L.2006, c.16 (C.52:27I-8), the authority shall have
43 the power to enter into any legally binding agreements with
44 representatives of **【the】** persons who are homeless that are
45 necessary in order to comply with and implement the requirements
46 of 32 CFR 176.30 and 24 CFR 586.30. On or before December 31
47 of each year, the authority shall report each agreement entered into

1 by the authority pursuant to this section to the Office of
2 Homelessness Prevention in the Department of Community Affairs.

3 (cf: P.L.2008, c.28, s.1)

4

5 12. (New section) There is hereby appropriated from the General
6 Fund to the Department of Community Affairs the sum of
7 \$3,000,000 to carry out the purposes of section 1 of
8 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

9

10 13. This act shall take effect immediately.

11

12

13

STATEMENT

14

15 This bill establishes the Office of Homelessness Prevention in
16 the Department of Community Affairs. The purpose of the office is
17 to coordinate among State and local agencies and private
18 organizations that provide services to persons who are homeless or
19 those at risk for homelessness, and to implement a Statewide
20 strategy to address homelessness.

21 The bill also establishes the “New Jersey Homelessness
22 Prevention Task Force.” The purpose of the task force is to serve as
23 an advisory body to the Office of Homelessness Prevention, to
24 develop recommendations, through an intensive collaborative effort
25 among representatives of State government, providers of services to
26 the homeless, advocacy organizations, and other concerned
27 representatives of the public, and to develop, promote, and support
28 efforts for the most effective means of coordinating and funding
29 programs to meet the various needs of persons within this State who
30 are homeless or at risk for homelessness.

31 Under the bill, the Office of Homelessness Prevention will
32 compile data on State programs and local coalitions that provide
33 assistance to persons who are homeless. The bill permits the
34 transfer of the Homeless Management Information System,
35 currently administered in the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage
36 Finance Agency, to the Office of Homelessness Prevention.

37 Finally, the bill appropriates \$3 million from the General Fund to
38 the Department of Community Affairs to fund the Office of
39 Homelessness Prevention.