

ASSEMBLY, No. 3691

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 16, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY

District 7 (Burlington)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes Division of Women's Services in DOC.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/16/2020)

1 AN ACT establishing the Division of Women's Services and
2 supplementing Title 30 of the Revised Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. There is established in the Department of Corrections the
8 Division of Women's Services. The division shall have all powers
9 necessary or proper to enable it to carry out the division's duties,
10 functions, and powers under this act. The division shall develop
11 policies, programs, and services to address:

12 a. the specific needs of female inmates in the following areas:
13 medical treatment, including prenatal care; mental health treatment,
14 including treatment for physical or sexual abuse or other trauma;
15 substance abuse treatment; parenting; and child reunification;

16 b. the specific needs of female inmates who are pregnant, have
17 given birth while incarcerated, have recently given birth prior to
18 incarceration, or are breastfeeding; and

19 c. any other areas deemed appropriate by the commissioner.
20

21 2. a. The division shall be under the immediate supervision
22 of a director. The director of the division shall be appointed by the
23 Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, and shall serve
24 during the term of office of the Governor appointing the director
25 and until the director's successor is appointed and has qualified.

26 b. The director shall administer the work of the division under
27 the direction and supervision of the commissioner, and shall
28 perform other functions of the department as the commissioner may
29 prescribe. The director shall receive a salary as provided by law.

30 c. The director may appoint employees as may be necessary,
31 subject to the provisions of Title 11A of the New Jersey Statutes.
32

33 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the tenth month
34 after enactment.
35
36

37 STATEMENT

38
39 This bill establishes the Division of Women's Services in the
40 Department of Corrections.

41 Under the provisions of this bill, the division is required to
42 develop policies, programs, and services to address: 1) the specific
43 needs of female inmates in the following areas: medical treatment,
44 including prenatal care; mental health treatment, including
45 treatment for physical or sexual abuse or other trauma; substance
46 abuse treatment; parenting; and child reunification; 2) the specific

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1 needs of female inmates who are pregnant, have given birth while
2 incarcerated, have recently given birth prior to incarceration, or are
3 breastfeeding; and 3) any other areas deemed appropriate by the
4 commissioner.

5 The bill provides that the division is to be under the immediate
6 supervision of a director who is to be appointed by the Governor,
7 with the advice and consent of the Senate. The director may
8 appoint employees as necessary, subject to the provisions of Title
9 11A regarding civil service.