

ASSEMBLY, No. 221

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Assemblywoman WEINBERG and Assemblyman ZISA

1 A SUPPLEMENT to "AN ACT making appropriations for the support of
2 the State Government and the several public purposes for the fiscal
3 year ending June 30, 1996 and regulating the disbursement
4 thereof," approved June 30, 1995 (P.L.1995, c.164).

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

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9 1. In addition to the amounts appropriated under P.L.1995, c.164,
10 there is appropriated out of the General Fund the following sum for
11 the purpose specified:

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13 GRANTS-IN-AID
14 62. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
15 50 Economic Planning, Development and Security
16 54 Manpower and Employment Services
17
18 07-4535 Vocational Rehabilitation Services.....\$4,000,000

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20 Special Purpose:
21 Sheltered Workshop Support.....(4,000,000)

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23 The amount hereinabove, together with the amount appropriated for
24 Grants-In-Aid to the Department of Labor for Sheltered Workshop
25 Support pursuant to P.L.1995, c.164, shall be used for reimbursement
26 of client services in full, subject to the approval of the Director of the
27 Division of Budget and Accounting.

28 The Commissioner of Labor, on behalf of the Rehabilitation
29 Commission, established pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1955, c.64
30 (C.34:16-21), shall report in writing to the Director of the Division of
31 Budget and Accounting and the Joint Budget Oversight Committee,
32 on or before March 15, 1996, on the expenditure and commitment of
33 State funds for the Sheltered Workshop Support program for fiscal
34 year 1996 and shall provide program evaluation data regarding the
35 cost of client services, the rate of reimbursement per client and client

1 year, the number of clients and client years served and the number of  
2 unfunded clients .

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4 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall be retroactive to  
5 July 1, 1995.

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STATEMENT

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10 The bill provides a General Fund supplemental appropriation of  
11 \$4,000,000 to the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation in the  
12 Department of Labor for Fiscal Year 1996 for the Sheltered Workshop  
13 Support program. Retroactive to July 1, 1995, the bill requires that  
14 the additional funding be used for the reimbursement of client services.  
15 Moreover, the bill directs the Commissioner of Labor, on behalf of the  
16 Rehabilitation Commission, which has sole jurisdiction over the  
17 Vocational Rehabilitation Services program, to report to the Director  
18 of the Division of Division of Budget and Accounting and the Joint  
19 Budget Oversight Committee on the expenditure and commitment of  
20 State funds regarding this program and to provide certain program  
21 evaluation data on or before March 15, 1996.

22 The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation provides funding by  
23 contract to private and public non-profit agencies which operate  
24 extended employment programs for severely disabled individuals.  
25 Known as sheltered workshops, these programs offer long-term  
26 training and rehabilitation services to individuals who cannot sustain  
27 or achieve competitive employment in their communities, and who  
28 might otherwise be confined to their homes or institutions.

29 The supplemental appropriation will enable the Division of  
30 Vocational Rehabilitation Services to increase its anticipated rate of  
31 reimbursement to those agencies which provide services, from 85  
32 percent to 100 percent per client year, during fiscal year 1996. The  
33 additional funding will also allow the division to provide  
34 reimbursement for the more than 300 individuals receiving workshop  
35 services each year for whom the State currently provides no support.

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40 Supplemental appropriation of \$4,000,000 to DOL to fully fund  
41 Sheltered Workshop Support program.