

ASSEMBLY, No. 244

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Assemblyman GARCIA

1 AN ACT establishing the Office of Hispanic Services within the  
2 Department of Corrections and making an appropriation therefor.

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

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7 1. a. There is hereby established in the Department of Corrections  
8 the Office of Hispanic Services.

9 b. The Office of Hispanic Services shall :

10 (1) Provide for program assistance, monitoring, and evaluation in  
11 order to meet the specific needs of the department's Hispanic  
12 population;

13 (2) Provide technical assistance in the development of programs  
14 designed to meet the social rehabilitative needs of Hispanic offenders  
15 incarcerated in the State or county correctional facilities;

16 (3) Assist with the orientation and clinical assessment of Hispanic  
17 inmates at the department's inmate reception centers;

18 (4) Enhance the provision of psychological and other services to  
19 the Hispanic inmate population;

20 (5) Provide translation services, on behalf of the department to  
21 Hispanic inmates and their families and communities;

22 (6) Provide research and data analysis information for the  
23 department's planning efforts for special inmate populations;

24 (7) Provide educational and training experiences to the staff to  
25 assist them in servicing Hispanic inmates;

26 (8) Assist in the development of an effective marketing and  
27 recruitment program to attract Hispanic employees to the department;

28 (9) Provide the department's personnel with an information center  
29 regarding issues and concerns with respect to Hispanics and other  
30 people of color; and

31 (10) Provide the Hispanic community, and other interested entities,  
32 with an authorized, identifiable unit within the department concerned  
33 with matters pertaining to corrections and Hispanics.

34 c. As used in this act, "Hispanic" means a person of Spanish or

1 Portuguese culture, with origins in Mexico, South or Central America,  
2 or the Caribbean Islands, regardless of race.

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4 2. There is appropriated the sum of \$350,000.00 to effectuate the  
5 purposes of this act.

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7 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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12 This bill statutorily establishes the Office of Hispanic Services  
13 within the Department of Corrections. This office, which has been  
14 operated by the department with the aid of federal funding until FY  
15 1995, was not recommended to receive State funding in FY 1995. As  
16 a result, it is in danger of elimination. By statutorily establishing this  
17 office, the bill guarantees that the Department of Corrections will  
18 continue the activities conducted by the Office of Hispanic Services,  
19 despite the loss of federal funds. The bill appropriates \$350,000 to  
20 replace the lost federal funding.

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25 Statutorily establishes the Office of Hispanic Services within the  
26 Department of Corrections and appropriates \$350,000.

WITHDRAWN