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ASSEMBLY, No. 25

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 20, 1997

By Assemblymen AZZOLINA, BLEE, Geist,
Assemblywoman Heck, Assemblymen Kramer, LeFevre,
Talarico, Assemblywoman Allen and Assemblyman Zecker

1 AN ACT establishing a parole advisory board ¹[on substance abuse
2 treatment]¹ and supplementing chapter 4 of Title 30 of the Revised
3 Statutes.

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

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8 1. There is hereby established a Parole Advisory Board ¹[on
9 Substance Abuse Treatment]¹ in, but not of, the Bureau of Parole.
10 Notwithstanding the allocation of the board within the bureau, the
11 bureau or any employee thereof shall not exercise any control over the
12 board. The advisory board shall consist of ¹[21]23¹ members. It
13 shall include in its membership the Chief of the Bureau of Parole in the
14 Department of Corrections or his designee, who shall serve ex officio;
15 one member representing each of the following organizations and
16 groups, who shall be appointed by the Governor: the State Parole
17 Board, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Health and
18 Senior Services, ¹the Department of Law and Public Safety,¹ Office
19 of the Governor, the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Victims
20 of Crime Compensation Board, the New Jersey Chapter of the
21 American Correctional Association, the County Prosecutors
22 Association of New Jersey, the Sheriffs' Association of New Jersey,
23 the New Jersey Wardens Association, the New Jersey State
24 Association of Chiefs of Police, the American Parole and Probation
25 Association ¹[;] , Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse,¹
26 the community at large, treatment providers, victims' rights groups and
27 former inmates who have successfully completed parole. Two
28 members of the Senate, who shall not be of the same political party
29 and who shall serve during their terms of office, shall be appointed by

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Assembly ALP committee amendments adopted March 3, 1997.

1 the President of the Senate. Two members of the General Assembly,
2 who shall not be of the same political party and who shall serve during
3 their terms of office, shall be appointed by the Speaker of the General
4 Assembly.

5 Members of the board shall be appointed with the advice and
6 consent of the Senate, and serve a term of three years, except for the
7 initial gubernatorial appointees, ¹~~four~~ seven¹ of whom shall serve
8 for two years and ¹~~four~~ seven¹ of whom shall serve for four years.
9 Each member shall serve for the term of appointment and until a
10 successor is appointed. A member may be reappointed to the board.
11 A member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring in the membership of
12 the board for any reason other than the expiration of the term shall
13 serve a term of appointment for the unexpired term only. All
14 vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original
15 appointments. Any appointed member of the board, except the
16 legislative members, may be removed from the board by the Governor,
17 for cause, after a hearing, and may be suspended by the Governor
18 pending the completion of the hearing. Legislative members may be
19 removed for cause by the leader of their respective houses. Motions
20 and resolutions may be adopted by the board at a board meeting by an
21 affirmative vote of not less than 11 members.

22 Members of the board shall serve without compensation but shall
23 be entitled to reimbursement for actual expenses of serving on the
24 board, to the extent that funds are available for this purpose.

25 The board shall organize as soon as possible after the appointment
26 of its members. The members shall select a chair from among their
27 number.

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29 2. It shall be the duty of the advisory board to review and comment
30 on the development and implementation of ¹supervision standards,¹
31 drug and alcohol treatment programs for inmates and parolees, ¹and
32 special assignments as requested by the Commissioner of Corrections,¹
33 taking into consideration research conducted by the Bureau of Parole.
34 The board shall sponsor conferences with criminal justice
35 administrators and community members, including treatment
36 providers, in order to educate all interested parties in the importance
37 of relapse prevention and treatment for specialized cases, and to
38 address issues such as lowering costs, developing protocols for
39 confidentiality, identifying the type and amount of treatment that
40 should be available, and promoting community involvement in the
41 reintegration process. The advisory board may make
42 recommendations to the Commissioner of Corrections, the Parole
43 Board, the Legislature and the Governor in these matters.

44 The advisory board shall meet at least semiannually and may hold
45 hearings at any place or places it shall designate during the sessions or
46 recesses of the Legislature. The Bureau of Parole shall have primary

1 responsibility for providing staff services and other necessary support
2 to the board. The board may also request the assistance and services
3 of the employees of any State, county or municipal department, board,
4 bureau, commission, task force or agency as it may require and as may
5 be available to it for its purposes. The board may, within the limits of
6 funds appropriated or otherwise made available to it for its purposes,
7 employ stenographic and clerical assistants and incur travel and
8 miscellaneous expenses necessary for the performance of its duties.

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10 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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15 Establishes a parole advisory board on substance abuse treatment.