

[First Reprint]
ASSEMBLY, No. 1495

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 5, 1996

By Assemblymen AZZOLINA, ROMA,
Assemblywomen Turner and Buono

1 AN ACT establishing pilot community coalitions to address the needs
2 and concerns of grandparents raising their grandchildren and
3 making an appropriation therefor.

4

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

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8 1. The Commissioner of Human Services shall provide funding to
9 ¹[five] six¹ counties for a pilot project to establish broad-based
10 community coalitions to address the needs and concerns of
11 grandparents raising their grandchildren. The ¹[five] six¹ counties
12 shall be: Atlantic, ¹Bergen,¹ Essex, Mercer, Middlesex and Monmouth.
13 The Division of Youth and Family Services in the Department of
14 Human Services shall provide such assistance as may be required and
15 as may be available for the purposes of carrying out the duties of the
16 community coalitions under this act.

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18 2. a. Each community coalition shall be comprised of 11 members,
19 who shall be appointed by the county governing body. Membership in
20 the community coalition shall include representatives from community
21 agencies, law enforcement, and the courts, and from the fields of
22 health, housing, child care, substance abuse and education. The
23 community coalition shall also include grandparents raising their
24 grandchildren.

25 b. The community coalitions shall organize as soon as possible
26 after the appointment of their members.

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28 3. The goal of the community coalition shall be to:

29 a. Identify the needs of grandparents raising their grandchildren;

30 b. Match areas of need with an awareness of existing resources;

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 ACO committee amendments adopted September 16, 1996.

1 c. Provide a comprehensive resource guide for grandparents based
2 on existing programs and services; and

3 d. Recommend programs and services where they do not exist.
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5 4. a. Each community coalition shall issue an initial report no later
6 than six months after the community coalition has been organized and
7 a final report no later than one year after the effective date of this act
8 containing its findings and recommendations. The reports shall be
9 submitted directly to the Commissioner of Human Services as well as
10 to the chairpersons of the Senate Women's Issues, Children and Family
11 Services and the Assembly Community Services Committees, or their
12 successor committees. The final report shall include recommendations
13 for the establishment of a Statewide system to provide monitoring and
14 evaluation of entitlements, benefits and services for grandparents
15 raising their grandchildren. The reports shall be provided also to the
16 appropriate county governing body.
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18 5. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department
19 of Human Services ¹[\$25,000] \$30,000¹ to provide each of the ¹[five]
20 six¹ community coalitions with a \$5,000 grant to effectuate the
21 purposes of this act.
22

23 6. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire one year
24 following enactment.
25
26
27

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29 _____
30 Establishes pilot community coalitions to address the needs of
grandparents raising their grandchildren and appropriates \$30,000.