

ASSEMBLY, No. 2287

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 16, 1996

By Assemblyman ROCCO, Assemblywoman ALLEN and  
Assemblyman DeSopo

1 AN ACT concerning the New Jersey Youth Corps, amending the title  
2 and body of P.L.1984, c.198 and P.L.1985, c.158 and  
3 supplementing P.L.1984, c.198.

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

7  
8 1. The title of P.L.1984, c.198 is amended to read as follows:

9 AN ACT to authorize the establishment of the New Jersey Youth  
10 Corps in the Department of [Community Affairs] Human Services  
11 and prescribing the purposes and organization thereof.  
12 (cf: P.L.1984, c.198, title)

13  
14 2. Section 3 of P.L.1984, c.198 (C.9:25-3) is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 3. For the purposes of this act:

17 a. "Corps" means the New Jersey Youth Corps created by section  
18 4 of this act.

19 b. "Administrator" means the Commissioner of the Department of  
20 [Community Affairs] Human Services or any community service  
21 project sponsor under an agreement pursuant to section 5 of this act.

22 c. "Community Service Project" means any undertaking designed  
23 to provide, or assist in providing, services to promote public health,  
24 education and welfare among the general population or segments  
25 thereof having identifiable needs or deficiencies in those areas. The  
26 term includes, without limiting the generality of the foregoing,  
27 projects for the rehabilitation of substandard housing; the repair,  
28 restoration and maintenance of public facilities and amenities;  
29 assisting in the organization and delivery of educational and health  
30 services and other social services required by various segments of  
31 urban populations.

32 d. "Eligible youth" means any person who (1) is between such  
33 ages as may be specified by rule or regulation adopted pursuant to

**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.**

1 section 9 of this act, but in any event is not less than 16 nor more than  
2 25 years of age, (2) is in compliance with section 6 of this act, and  
3 who (3) is unable, through lack of employable skills or unavailability  
4 of job opportunities appropriate to the nature or level of his skills, to  
5 obtain socially worthwhile and reasonably remunerative employment  
6 in or near the municipality of his residence; or (4) possesses skills and  
7 interests peculiarly appropriate to a particular community service  
8 project or projects in which he is recruited to serve.

9 e. "Community service project sponsor" means any county,  
10 municipality or school district, or public or private non-profit  
11 corporations.

12 (cf: P.L.1984, c.198, s.3)

13  
14 3. Section 4 of P.L.1984, c.198 (C.9:25-4) is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 4. a. The Commissioner of the Department of [Community  
17 Affairs] Human Services is hereby authorized to create the New  
18 Jersey Youth Corps within the Division of Family Development in the  
19 Department of [Community Affairs] Human Services. The function of  
20 the corps shall be to recruit, train and employ eligible youth in  
21 community service projects designated by the administrator, so as to  
22 accomplish the purposes set forth in section 2 of this act.

23 b. The commissioner or person administering the office of  
24 commissioner of that department shall be the administrator of the  
25 corps, and all personnel, budgetary and other administrative services  
26 necessary or incidental to its proper functioning shall be provided by  
27 and through that department.

28 c. The administrator may enter into agreements with the  
29 Department of Education or the Department of Labor, or with any  
30 public or private educational institution approved for the purpose and  
31 for the design, provision or supervision of educational,  
32 vocational-training or apprenticeship programs necessary or expedient  
33 to the implementation of this act. Approval of any public or private  
34 educational institution for purposes of this subsection shall be, in all  
35 cases, by the Commissioner of Education and, in regard to programs  
36 involving job training by the Commissioner of Labor.

37 d. The administrator may enter into agreements with recognized  
38 labor unions, or any member or representative thereof, for provision  
39 of supervisory services on any project, or of vocational training or  
40 apprenticeship programs, or, where appropriate, a combination of  
41 supervisory and training services in connection with any project, and  
42 may provide for just compensation for such services. The agreements  
43 shall be subject to approval by the Commissioner of Labor.

44 (cf: P.L.1984, c.198, s.4)

45  
46 4. Section 1 of P.L. 1985, c.158 (C.9:25-4.1) is amended to read

1 as follows:

2 1. The Commissioner of [Community Affairs] Human Services is  
3 authorized to appoint a supervisor and an assistant supervisor of the  
4 New Jersey Youth Corps created pursuant to P.L. 1984, c. 198, and,  
5 within the limit of funds appropriated or otherwise made available for  
6 the purpose, to fix their compensation and other terms and conditions  
7 of employment. The supervisor and assistant supervisor of the New  
8 Jersey Youth Corps shall serve at the pleasure of the commissioner,  
9 and their positions shall not be in the classified service of the Civil  
10 Service, notwithstanding any provision of Title [11 of the Revised]  
11 11A of the New Jersey Statutes or of any other law to the contrary.  
12 (cf: P.L. 1985, c.158, s.1)

13

14 5. Section 5 of P.L.1984, c.198 (C.9:25-5) is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 5. a. The Commissioner of [Community Affairs] Human Services  
17 is authorized to enter into agreements with sponsors of community  
18 service projects for the employment of the corps in these projects.  
19 The agreement may delegate to the sponsor the recruitment of eligible  
20 youth into the corps for employment in the project or provision for  
21 recruitment of their training or both. The sponsor may be required to  
22 contribute a portion of the cost. Any eligible youth employed or  
23 assigned pursuant to the provisions of this act shall be so employed or  
24 assigned without regard to the provisions of Title [II or the Revised]  
25 11A of the New Jersey Statutes where otherwise applicable.

26 b. An agreement under subsection a. of this section shall set forth:

27 (1) A general description of each community service project  
28 designated.

29 (2) The number of corps members to be assigned to each project;  
30 a description of the nature and duration of their employment.

31 (3) The amount of funds required to sustain each project,  
32 distinguishing between the amounts required for corps members'  
33 stipends and the amounts required for other purposes.

34 (4) A statement of the amount and purpose of State funds to be  
35 contributed toward the expenses set forth in paragraph (3), above, and  
36 the manner and timing of their disbursement.

37 (5) A further description of projects or budgetary detail as the  
38 Commissioner of [Community Affairs] Human Services may require.

39 c. No disadvantaged youth shall be employed or assigned pursuant  
40 to the provisions of this act for a period in excess of 52 weeks unless  
41 the commissioner shall find, in the exercise of his discretion, that a  
42 longer period is required, if appropriate.

43 d. Each community service project sponsor shall submit to the  
44 commissioner, within 60 days of the termination of each community  
45 service project for which a grant has been received, a report on the  
46 accomplishments of the goals and objectives of the project and may

1 be required to submit an audit of the project conducted by an  
2 independent certified public accountant, according to regulations  
3 specified by the commissioner.

4 e. It is lawful for the governing body of a municipality to  
5 appropriate funds of the municipality, or to receive and expend money  
6 or anything of value made available to it for the purpose from any  
7 public or private source, for the support of any activities or projects  
8 of the corps within the municipality, pursuant to delegation of  
9 administrative authority under this section.

10 (cf: P.L.1984, c.198, s.5)

11

12 6. Section 7 of P.L.1984, c.198 (C.9:25-7) is amended to read as  
13 follows:

14 7. a. Members of the corps while engaged in community service  
15 projects shall receive reasonably remunerative stipends, to be  
16 determined in accordance with guidelines promulgated by the  
17 Commissioner of [Community Affairs] Human Services.

18 b. Guidelines established for this purpose shall take into account:

19 (1) the necessity of offering sufficient inducement for participation  
20 in the corps by those persons whose enrollment will conduce to a  
21 realization of the aims and purposes set forth in section 2 of this act;

22 (2) the requirements, expressed in subsection e. of section 2 of this  
23 act, as to efficient operation and avoidance of unfair price and wage  
24 competition.

25 (cf: P.L.1984, c.198, s.7)

26

27 7. Section 8 of P.L.1984, c.198 (C.9:25-8) is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 8. The Commissioner of [Community Affairs] Human Services  
30 shall establish an advisory board to assist him in the formulation of  
31 policy and regulations incident to carrying out the terms and purposes  
32 of this act. The board shall consist of the Commissioners of  
33 Community Affairs, Education, and Labor, ex officio, and of at least  
34 five additional members, including at least one from each of the  
35 following categories: (1) mayors of urban municipalities, (2) persons  
36 of recognized leadership in volunteer civic service and community  
37 organization, (3) representatives of organized labor, (4) educators and  
38 specialists in vocational training and counseling; and (5) business  
39 leaders in the State of New Jersey.

40 (cf: P.L.1984, c.198, s.8)

41

42 8. Section 9 of P.L.1984, c.198 (C.9:25-9) is amended to read as  
43 follows:

44 9. The Commissioner of [Community Affairs] Human Services is  
45 authorized to adopt, in accordance with the "Administrative  
46 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c. 410 (C. 52:14B-1 et seq.), the rules

1 and regulations necessary to carry this act into effect, and to enter  
2 into any agreements authorized under this act for that purpose.

3 (cf: P.L.1984, c.198, s.9)

4

5 9. Section 10 of P.L.1984, c.198 (C.9:25-10) is amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 10. The Commissioner of [Community Affairs] Human Services  
8 is authorized to expend such sums from the existing administrative  
9 and discretionary grant or aid accounts of the department and related  
10 agencies as he may deem required to establish and maintain the  
11 Volunteer Youth Corps.

12 (cf: P.L.1984, c.198, s.10)

13

14 10. Section 11 of P.L.1984, c.198 (C.9:25-11) is amended to read  
15 as follows:

16 11. The Commissioner of [Community Affairs] Human Services  
17 is authorized to receive and expend for the purpose of stipends or  
18 other expenses of the corps those sums as may from time to time be  
19 appropriated for those purposes by the Legislature or otherwise made  
20 available out of State funds, grants from the federal government or  
21 any of its agencies, or from any private or public source; but an  
22 amount not to exceed 10% of the aggregate of these sums may be  
23 utilized for administration of the program, subject to such constraints  
24 as may be imposed on particular funds by their source. For fiscal year  
25 1985, there is appropriated \$1,500,000.00 to enable the planning and  
26 initiation of the New Jersey Youth Corps Program. Unexpended  
27 funds may be carried over from one fiscal year to the next fiscal year.

28 (cf: P.L.1984, c.198, s.11)

29

30 11. (New section) a. All functions, powers and duties now vested  
31 in the New Jersey Youth Corps as established in the Department of  
32 Community Affairs pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1984, c.198 (C.9:25-  
33 4) and currently funded through the Department of Education are  
34 transferred to and assumed by the New Jersey Youth Corps in the  
35 Department of Human Services.

36 b. Whenever, in any law, rule, regulation, order, contract,  
37 document, judicial or administrative proceeding or otherwise,  
38 reference is made to the New Jersey Youth Corps, the same shall mean  
39 and refer to the New Jersey Youth Corps in the Department of  
40 Human Services.

41 c. This transfer shall be subject to the provisions of the "State  
42 Agency Transfer Act," P.L.1971, c.375 (C.52:14D-1 et seq.).

43

44 12. This act shall take effect immediately.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16

STATEMENT

This bill transfers the New Jersey Youth Corps established in the Department of Community Affairs, pursuant to P.L.1984, c.198 (C.9:25-1 et seq.), and currently funded through the Department of Education, to the Division of Family Development in the Department of Human Services.

This transfer will enable the New Jersey Youth Corps to serve as a model welfare-to-work program for young high school dropouts in accordance with the Governor's Work First N.J. Welfare Reform Initiative.

---

Transfers New Jersey Youth Corps to DHS.