

ASSEMBLY, No. 2972

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 12, 1997

By Assemblymen **HOLZAPFEL, WOLFE, Kelly, T. Smith, Gibson, Asselta, LeFevre, Kavanaugh, Arnone, Carroll, Augustine, Bucco, O'Toole, DeCroce**, Assemblywoman **Heck**, Assemblyman **Bateman**, Assemblywomen **J. Smith, Farragher**, Assemblyman **DeSopo**, Assemblywoman **Allen**, Assemblymen **Chatzidakis, Bodine**, Assemblywoman **Crecco**, Assemblymen **Weingarten, Lance** and Assemblywoman **Myers**

1 AN ACT concerning public assistance recipients and supplementing
2 Title 30 of the Revised Statutes.

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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. If a single person without dependent children or a member of a
8 couple without dependent children who is a recipient of benefits under
9 the Work First New Jersey program established pursuant to P.L.1997,
10 c.38 (C.44:10-55 et seq.) is incarcerated in a county jail or place of
11 detention, county workhouse or county penitentiary, the warden,
12 administrator, sheriff or other person in charge of the county jail or
13 place of detention, county workhouse or county penitentiary, or his
14 designee, shall notify immediately the director of welfare of the
15 municipality or county, as appropriate, which administers the
16 recipient's benefits.

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18 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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23 This bill requires that if a single person without dependent children
24 or a member of a couple without dependent children who is a recipient
25 of benefits under the Work First New Jersey (WFNJ) program
26 established pursuant to P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-55 et seq.) is
27 incarcerated in a county jail or place of detention, county workhouse
28 or county penitentiary, the warden, administrator, sheriff or other
29 person in charge of the county jail or place of detention, county
30 workhouse or county penitentiary, or his designee, shall notify
31 immediately the welfare agency which administers the recipient's

1 WFNJ benefits.

2 Presently, there is no form of notification to the local welfare
3 agency if a recipient of public assistance is incarcerated. In some
4 instances, public assistance funds for housing costs could be spent on
5 a welfare recipient while he is incarcerated. This legislation is
6 designed to address this situation by requiring the necessary
7 notification.

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12 Requires correctional authorities to notify welfare directors if certain
13 Work First New Jersey recipients are incarcerated.