

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 28

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Assemblywoman HECK

- 1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** establishing the Assembly Advisory Council on
2 Women.
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- 4 **WHEREAS**, Despite the fact that many areas of opportunity have been opened
5 to women over the past two decades, there continues to be a significant
6 degree of inequality in the treatment of women both socially and
7 economically; and
- 8 **WHEREAS**, The continuing disparity in salary between men and women for
9 similar work as well as the inability of women to break through the "glass
10 ceiling" that keeps women from top positions in business and government
11 are only two examples of this unequal treatment; and
- 12 **WHEREAS**, In addition, there are a variety of issues which are unique to
13 women, in particular working women, but which because of their
14 significance to the functioning and well-being of families are of equal
15 importance to society as a whole; and
- 16 **WHEREAS**, Women are subjected to a great deal of stress as they struggle to
17 meet the often conflicting demands of their roles as members of the
18 workforce outside of the home and principal caretakers within the home;
19 and
- 20 **WHEREAS**, Although it is generally acknowledged that women are a vital
21 component of this nation's labor force, not enough has been done to
22 provide women and their families with the supports necessary to alleviate
23 that stress; and
- 24 **WHEREAS**, Despite the fact that there has been a great deal of rhetoric
25 concerning the problems and struggles which confront women within this
26 society, there has often been a lack of government action in fashioning
27 solutions adequate to address those problems; and
- 28 **WHEREAS**, It is therefore appropriate to establish an advisory council to
29 comprehensively and systematically review the problems and issues which
30 confront women in contemporary society and to recommend appropriate
31 legislative and administrative action; now, therefore,

1 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

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3 1. There is created the Assembly Advisory Council on Women composed
4 of seven members of the General Assembly. The members, chairperson and
5 vice-chairperson of the council shall be appointed by the Speaker of the
6 General Assembly. No more than five members of the advisory council shall
7 be of the same political party.

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9 2. The advisory council shall organize as soon as possible after the
10 appointment of its members. The chairperson shall appoint a secretary who
11 need not be a member of the advisory council.

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13 3. It shall be the duty of the advisory council to:

14 a. Study issues affecting the social and economic well-being of women
15 within the State;

16 b. Solicit, through public hearings and other means, the concerns of the
17 citizens of this State on issues affecting the equality and quality of life of
18 women, including, but not limited to, child and dependent care, education,
19 economic self-sufficiency, health care, equality in business, the professions and
20 government, and workplace opportunities;

21 c. Consult with business and industry, labor, community-based
22 organizations, child welfare advocates, State and local officials, and women
23 from diverse cultural and economic backgrounds to collect information and
24 identify solutions to those problems and issues which confront women in
25 contemporary society; and

26 d. Recommend appropriate remedial legislative and administrative action
27 necessary to address the identified areas of concern.

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29 4. The advisory council shall be entitled to call to its assistance and avail
30 itself of the services of officials and employees of any State, county, or
31 municipal department, board, bureau, commission, or agency as it may require
32 and as may be available to it for the purpose of carrying out its duties under
33 this resolution, and to employ stenographic and clerical assistants and incur
34 traveling and other miscellaneous expenses as it may deem necessary in order
35 to perform its duties, and as may be within the limit of funds appropriated or
36 otherwise made available to it.

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38 5. The advisory council shall report its findings, conclusions, and
39 recommendations for legislation or administrative action as often as
40 appropriate to the Speaker of the General Assembly, the President of the
41 Senate, the chairpersons of the appropriate standing reference committees of
42 both Houses of the Legislature, the Governor, the Director of the Division on
43 Women, as well as to any other persons the advisory council may deem

1 appropriate.

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6 Establishes Assembly Advisory Council on Women.