

SENATE, No. 59

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Senators O'CONNOR and GORMLEY

1 AN ACT concerning the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Committee and  
2 amending P.L.1992, c.113.

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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. (New section) The Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Committee,  
8 created by P.L.1985, c.494 and reconstituted by P.L.1989, c.148, shall  
9 continue in existence with the same membership serving on May 7,  
10 1995 and the same powers and duties heretofore provided, including  
11 responsibility for the design and construction of that part of the  
12 Vietnam Veterans' Memorial known as the Vietnam Era Educational  
13 Center. Any vacancy in the membership of the committee shall be  
14 filled in the same manner as the original appointments were made.

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16 2. (New section) Official actions taken by the committee between  
17 May 7, 1995 and the effective date of this act are hereby expressly  
18 validated. The committee is authorized to expend funds appropriated  
19 to it from the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Fund for expenses related  
20 to the design and construction of the Vietnam Era Educational Center.

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22 3. Section 1 of P.L.1992, c.113 (C.5:5-44.7) is amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 1. a. The New Jersey Racing Commission shall designate one of  
25 the racing days authorized each year to a holder of a permit to hold or  
26 conduct a horse race meeting pursuant to P.L.1940, c.17 (C.5:5-22 et  
27 seq.) as "Charity Racing Day for the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial" or  
28 shall allot to each such permit holder one additional racing day to be  
29 known as "Charity Racing Day for the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial."

30 b. All moneys received by the commission as its share of the total  
31 contributions to all parimutuel pools conducted or made on the racing  
32 day designated or allotted pursuant to subsection a. of this section

**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 shall be deposited in the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Fund, created  
2 pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1985, c.494 (C.52:18A-208).

3 c. The commission shall designate or allot the days provided for in  
4 subsection a. of this section until sufficient funds from all sources have  
5 been credited to the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Fund, created  
6 pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1985, c.494 (C.52:18A-208), to pay for  
7 the construction of the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial. The Vietnam  
8 Veterans' Memorial Committee, established pursuant to section 2 of  
9 P.L.1985, c.494 and reconstituted pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1989,  
10 c.148, shall inform the commission of the amount necessary to  
11 construct this memorial, and the State Treasurer shall periodically  
12 certify to the commission the amount of moneys in the fund.

13 d. For the purposes of this section, the Vietnam Veterans'  
14 Memorial shall include that part of the memorial known as the  
15 Vietnam Era Educational Center.

16 (cf: P.L.1992, c.113, s.1)

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18 4. This act shall take effect immediately and shall be retroactive to  
19 May 7, 1995; sections 1 and 2 shall expire upon completion of the  
20 Vietnam Era Educational Center and payment of all expenses incurred  
21 in connection with the design and construction thereof.

#### 22 23 24 STATEMENT

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26 The purpose of this bill is to clarify that the Vietnam Veterans'  
27 Memorial Committee has continued to exist and shall continue in  
28 existence until completion of that part of the Vietnam Veterans'  
29 Memorial known as the Vietnam Era Educational Center. The  
30 memorial consists of two parts: the "circular memorial" which was  
31 dedicated on May 7, 1995 and the educational center which, when  
32 completed, will explain the history of the Vietnam War and the role of  
33 the military personnel who served and died in Southeast Asia.  
34 Existing law provides that the memorial committee will expire upon  
35 dedication of the memorial. Although this was intended to mean  
36 dedication of the entire memorial, including the educational center, it  
37 has been alleged by some that the committee expired on May 7 when  
38 the "circular memorial" portion was dedicated. This bill addresses this  
39 perceived problem by expressly continuing the committee's existence  
40 until the educational center's completion.

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45 Clarifies that Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Committee will continue  
46 until completion of Vietnam Era Educational Center.