

[First Reprint]
SENATE, No. 955

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 14, 1996

By Senators MATHEUSSEN, BENNETT and Kyrillos

1 AN ACT authorizing the creation of a State-sponsored affinity card
2 and allocating fees collected therefrom for use by the State to
3 acquire lands for recreation and conservation purposes, and
4 supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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9 1. As used in this act:

10 "Affinity card" means a credit or debit card bearing the name of the
11 sponsoring entity ¹[and whose], the¹ credit or deposit account¹ of
12 which¹ is held and managed by the credit or debit card issuer¹ [.]¹

13 "Credit" means the right to defer payment of debt or the right to
14 incur debt and defer its payment¹ [.]¹

15 "Credit card" means any instrument or device, whether known as a
16 credit card, credit plate, or by any other name, issued by an issuer for
17 the use of the cardholder in obtaining money, goods, services, or
18 anything else of value on credit¹ [.]¹

19 "Debit card" means any card or devices which access a cardholder
20 deposit account with or without a line of credit¹ [.]¹

21 "Financial institution" means a State or federally chartered bank,
22 savings bank or savings and loan association with its headquarters and
23 card processing unit located in this State and which is directly licensed
24 by VISA or Mastercard for processing credit transactions and a direct
25 member of the MAC and NYCE networks for processing debit
26 transactions¹ [.]¹

27 "Issuer" means the financial institution ¹[which] that¹ issues a credit
28 or debit card¹, ¹ or its duly authorized agent¹ [.]¹; and¹

29 "Sponsoring entity" means an entity that contracts with a particular
30 financial institution whereby the financial institution agrees to be an
31 issuer of an affinity card bearing the sponsoring entity's name in

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 Senate SNR committee amendments adopted June 6, 1996.

1 exchange for a fee.

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3 2. a. The Department of the Treasury is authorized to participate
4 in an affinity card program for the benefit of the State. Within six
5 months after the date of enactment of this act, the State Treasurer
6 shall determine which financial institutions in the State issue or are
7 able to issue affinity cards and develop and submit to these financial
8 institutions a request for proposal for a New Jersey affinity card
9 program.

10 b. Based on responses by financial institutions to its request for
11 proposal, if the State Treasurer determines that it is feasible for the
12 State to be a sponsoring entity for an affinity card, the State Treasurer
13 is authorized to enter into a contract with a financial institution to be
14 the issuer of the New Jersey affinity card and to negotiate with the
15 financial institution the most favorable rate for the State's fee.

16 c. Upon entering into a contract with a financial institution
17 pursuant to subsection b. of this section, the department shall notify all
18 State agencies possessing any credit or debit card to replace any such
19 cards with the State-sponsored affinity card as soon as is reasonably
20 practicable and to use the affinity card for all new orders for which an
21 agency normally uses a credit or debit card.

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23 3. The moneys received from any fees collected pursuant to this act
24 shall be deposited with the State Treasurer for use by the State to
25 acquire lands for recreation and conservation purposes under the State
26 Green Acres program in the Department of Environmental Protection.

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28 4. The State Treasurer shall adopt, pursuant to the "Administrative
29 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), rules and
30 regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

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32 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

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38 Authorizes creation of a State-sponsored affinity card and allocates
fees collected therefrom for State Green Acres land acquisition.