

SENATE, No. 1548

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 3, 1996

By Senators MARTIN, CODEY, Bassano and MacInnes

1 AN ACT concerning State psychiatric hospitals and supplementing  
2 Title 30 of the Revised Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. The Senate Human Services Committee, or its successor, and  
8 the Assembly Community Services Committee, or its successor, shall  
9 review the Department of Human Services' progress in implementing  
10 the recommendations of the Senate Task Force on Greystone Park  
11 Psychiatric Hospital in its final report issued in June, 1996.

12 The committees shall request the Commissioner of Human Services  
13 to provide a status report on the actions taken by the department in  
14 implementing the recommendations and other actions taken by the  
15 department to address the problems identified in the task force report,  
16 and if no action was taken on a recommendation, the reasons why the  
17 department has not addressed the recommendation.

18 The review shall include a public hearing for State psychiatric  
19 hospital patients and their families and employees, and for support  
20 groups associated with the State psychiatric hospitals. The review  
21 shall be conducted no later than one year after the effective date of this  
22 act and biennially thereafter. Upon completion of the review, the  
23 committees shall issue a report of their findings and recommendations  
24 to the Commissioner of Human Services.

25

26 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

27

28

29

STATEMENT

30

31 This bill requires the Senate Human Services Committee and the  
32 Assembly Community Services Committee, or their successors, to  
33 review the Department of Human Services' progress in implementing  
34 the recommendations of the Senate Task Force on Greystone Park  
35 Psychiatric Hospital in its final report issued in June, 1996.

36 The committees shall request the Commissioner of Human Services  
37 to provide a status report on the actions taken by the department in

1 implementing the recommendations and other actions taken by the  
2 department to address the problems identified in the task force report,  
3 and if no action was taken on a recommendation, the reasons why the  
4 department has not addressed the recommendation.

5 The review shall include a public hearing for State psychiatric  
6 hospital patients and their families and employees, and for support  
7 groups associated with the State psychiatric hospitals. The review  
8 shall be conducted no later than one year after the effective date of this  
9 act and biennially thereafter. Upon completion of the review, the  
10 committees shall issue a report of their findings and recommendations  
11 to the Commissioner of Human Services.

12 This bill is one of several legislative initiatives recommended in the  
13 Final Report of the Senate Task Force on Greystone Park Psychiatric  
14 Hospital issued in June, 1996.

15

16

17

18

19 Requires Legislature to review DHS's progress in implementing  
20 recommendations of the Senate Task Force on Greystone Psychiatric  
21 Hospital.