

SENATE, No. 1700

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 25, 1996

By Senator CODEY

1 AN ACT concerning commissioners of principal departments in the
2 Executive branch of State government and supplementing Title 52
3 of the Revised Statutes.

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

7
8 1. As used in this act:

9 "commissioner" means the head of a principal department in the
10 Executive branch of State government, or the principal executive
11 officer of a department when a board, commission or other body is the
12 head of a principal department in the Executive branch of State
13 government; and

14 "direct and substantial contact" means participation in the selection
15 of a vendor, including negotiating or determining the scope of a
16 contract with a vendor.

17
18 2. A commissioner of a principal department in the Executive
19 branch of State government who has direct and substantial contact
20 with any vendor doing business with the department shall refrain from
21 discussing or seeking employment with that vendor until such contact
22 ceases.

23
24 3. If a commissioner of a principal department in the Executive
25 branch of State government is solicited for potential employment by
26 a vendor with whom the commissioner has direct and substantial
27 contact, that solicitation shall be immediately disclosed by the
28 commissioner to the Executive Commission on Ethical Standards.

29
30 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

31
32

33 STATEMENT

34
35 The purpose of this bill is to prevent conflicts of interest in the
36 awarding of contracts. It provides that a commissioner of a principal
37 department in the Executive branch of State government who has

1 direct and substantial contact with any vendor doing business with the
2 department shall refrain from discussing or seeking employment with
3 that vendor until such contact ceases. It also stipulates that if a
4 commissioner is solicited for potential employment by a vendor with
5 whom the commissioner has direct and substantial contact, that
6 solicitation shall be immediately disclosed by the commissioner to the
7 Executive Commission on Ethical Standards.

8

9

10

11

12 Prohibits commissioners from discussing or seeking employment with
13 certain vendors.