

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 1229

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

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SYNOPSIS

Requires DCA to make information on homeless prevention programs and services available on its Internet website.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended on June 14, 2021 by the General Assembly pursuant to the Governor's recommendations.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/19/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning homeless prevention programs and services and
 2 supplementing Title 52 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. a. The Department of Community Affairs shall prepare and
 8 make available on the department's Internet website, in an easily
 9 printable format, ¹or contract with a third party to prepare and make
 10 available.¹ information on all county, State, and federal homeless

11 prevention programs and services that are available to a homeless
 12 person or to a person who is at imminent risk of homelessness. The
 13 department shall update the information whenever new information
 14 about the programs and services becomes available. The
 15 information shall include, but not be limited to, a list, by county, of:

16 (1) grant programs and homeless intervention programs,
 17 including the "Homeless Veterans Grant Fund" established by
 18 section 4 of P.L.2013, c.239 (C.54A:9-25.33), "Statue of Liberty
 19 Trust Fund," established by section 3 of P.L.1987, c.57 (C.32:32-3),
 20 "County Homelessness Trust Fund," created by P.L.2009,
 21 c.123 (C.52:27D-287a et al.), and the Homeless Intervention
 22 Program in the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, that
 23 supply grants and provide referral assistance services to homeless
 24 veterans, homeless persons, and persons at imminent risk of
 25 homelessness, as applicable;

26 (2) homeless youth programs and other homeless services
 27 provided to teens and young adults by the Division of Children's
 28 System of Care and Office of Adolescent Services in the
 29 Department of Children and Families;

30 (3) homeless prevention services provided by the Division of
 31 Child Protection and Permanency in the Department of Children
 32 and Families to families involved in the child welfare system;

33 (4) homeless services provided by the Division of Mental Health
 34 and Addiction Services in the Department of Human Services to
 35 persons suffering from mental illness or co-occurring addiction and
 36 mental health disease; and

37 (5) other county, State, or federal housing and homeless
 38 prevention programs that provide financial and other supportive
 39 services to homeless persons or those at imminent risk of
 40 homelessness.

41 b. The department shall notify each county welfare agency,
 42 Division of Child Protection and Permanency local office, veterans
 43 service office, emergency shelter for the homeless, health care
 44 facility, State psychiatric hospital, crisis intervention unit, screening

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
 not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly amendments adopted in accordance with the
 Governor's recommendations June 14, 2021.

1 service, library, and community-based outreach program and
2 nonprofit organizations providing housing and homeless prevention
3 services in the State of the requirement to:

4 (1) post the information specified in paragraph (1) of subsection
5 a. of this section in a conspicuous public place in the agency, office
6 shelter, facility, hospital, unit, screening service, library, or place
7 where housing and homeless prevention services are provided; and

8 (2) provide the information, at no cost, to homeless persons or
9 persons at imminent risk of homelessness.

10 c. The department shall ensure, in consultation with the
11 Departments of Children and Families, Health, Human Services,
12 and Military and Veterans Affairs, that:

13 (1) the information posted on its website is made available on
14 the websites of the Departments of Children and Families, Health,
15 Human Services, and Military and Veterans Affairs, and is updated
16 as necessary; and

17 (2) a website link to the information is posted to the Internet
18 website of every county welfare agency, Division of Child
19 Protection and Permanency local office, and veterans service office
20 in the State.

21 d. As used in this section, "homeless person" means a teen, a
22 young adult, a veteran, as defined under N.J.S.11A:5-1,
23 N.J.S.18A:66-2, section 6 of P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-6), or
24 section 1 of P.L.1983, c.391 (C.43:16A-11.7), an unemployed or
25 underemployed person, a person with mental illness, or a person
26 with developmental disabilities who is living outside, or in a
27 building not meant for human habitation or which the person has no
28 legal right to occupy, or in an emergency shelter, in a temporary
29 housing program which may include a transitional and supportive
30 housing program if habitation time limits exist, or temporarily in
31 the home of another household, or in a motel.

32
33 2. Pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968,
34 c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), the Department of Community Affairs,
35 in consultation with the Departments of Children and Families,
36 Health, Human Services, and Military and Veterans Affairs, may
37 adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act.
38

39 3. This act shall take effect ¹immediately, but in order to
40 provide the department with time to prepare the website, the
41 requirement to make the website publicly available, fully
42 incorporating the information required under section 1, shall remain
43 inoperative until the first day of the third month next following
44 enactment 9 months following enactment, except that the
45 department may take any anticipatory administrative action in
46 advance as shall be necessary for the implementation of this act¹.