

52:27C-24 et al

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 52:27C-24 et al

(Homeless--
assistance
programs)

LAWS: 1988

CHAPTER: 29

Bill No: S88, A2494, A1511

Sponsor(s): Van Wagner

Date Introduced: Pre-filed

Committee: Assembly: Appropriations

Senate: Revenue, Finance & Appropriations; County & Municipal
Government

Amended during passage: Yes Assembly Committee Substitute
(First Reprint) enacted

Date of Passage: Assembly: March 14, 1988

Senate: February 2, 1988

Date of Approval: June 8, 1988

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes

Committee Statement: Assembly: Yes

Senate: Yes 3/28/88 & 1/21/88 & 1/28/88

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: Yes

Message on signing: No

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

See newspaper clippings--attached:

"Senate approves \$13.7 million plan to help homeless, 4-19-88 Trenton Times

"Assembly shells out \$13.6 million to supplement homeless aid," 3-15-88 Asbury
Park Press

"Senate oks \$14.3 million to assists N.J. homeless," 3-3-88 Trenton Times

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For background see:

- 974.90 Gioglio, Gerald R.
H842 Homeless in New Jersey: a study of shelters...
1986h September, 1986
- 974.90 New Jersey. Legislature. Assembly. Housing Committee
H842 Public hearing on
1988 4-18-88, Trenton, 1988.
- 974.90 New Jersey. Governor's Task Force on
H842 the homeless
1983k Report...October 7, 1983.
- 974.90 New Jersey. State Legislature. General Assembly. Housing and
H842 Urban Policy Committee. Public hearing on emergency provisions for
1983e the homeless, held 3-31-83. Trenton, 1983.

20 88
6 0 8

[FIRST REPRINT]
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE, No. 88 (2R), and ASSEMBLY, Nos. 2494 and 1511
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ADOPTED MARCH 7, 1988

Sponsored by Senator VAN WAGNER, Assemblymen HARDWICK,
SCHWARTZ, Assemblywomen Ogden, Bush, Farragher,
Assemblymen Kelly and Shinn

1 AN ACT concerning programs to provide assistance to the
homeless and other persons of low or moderate income,
3 ¹[appropriating \$5,650,000, and]¹ amending and supplementing
P.L. 1944, c. 85 ¹, supplementing chapter 6 of Title 54A of
5 the New Jersey Statutes and making an appropriation¹.

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

9 1. Section 24 of P.L. 1944, c. 85 (C. 52:27C-24) is amended to
read as follows:

11 24. In addition to the powers hereinabove specifically granted,
the authority shall have the following powers:

13 a. To acquire property, real, personal or mixed, or any interest
therein by purchase, lease, gift, bequest, devise, exchange or
15 eminent domain; to hold and improve property; to operate, lease,
sell or exchange property; to construct or contract for the
17 construction of projects and community facilities other than any
project or facility which would be competitive with any existing
19 public utility as the same is defined in R.S. 48:2-13; to borrow
money and secure the same by bonds or mortgages upon property
21 held or to be held by it; but nothing herein contained shall be
deemed to authorize the authority to pledge the credit of this
23 State or to constitute any bonds or mortgages so issued by its
obligations of this State.

25 b. To receive any grant or grants to be made by the federal,
State, county, municipal or other governments, or from any other
27 sources.

c. If, for any of the purposes hereunder, the authority shall
29 find it necessary or convenient for it to acquire title to, or any
lesser interest in, real property in this State, then the authority
31 may acquire title to such property by purchase, lease or
condemnation, and shall have the right to acquire realty

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:
¹ Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted March 7, 1988.

1 by eminent domain in accordance with the provisions of the
 2 "Eminent Domain Act of 1971" P.L. 1971, c. 361 (C. 20:3-1 et
 3 seq.).

d. To make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations for
 4 the effectuation of its powers and purposes.

e. To provide rental assistance grants to persons of low or
 5 moderate income to enable them to pay the fair market value for
 6 housing units.

7 f. To provide loans and grants of temporary rental or other
 8 temporary housing assistance to persons without housing or in
 9 imminent danger of losing housing as a result of having
 10 insufficient income from other sources to allow payment of the
 11 rental or other housing costs.

12 g. In order to encourage increased availability of affordable
 13 housing for persons of low and moderate income, to provide
 14 subsidies or other reductions of interest rates on loans made to
 15 public or private nonprofit agencies or limited dividend
 16 corporations for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, repairing
 17 or rehabilitating residential structures to be used for such housing.

18 h. To establish statewide programs to assist homeless persons,
 19 such programs to include, but not be limited to, assistance in
 20 developing and obtaining housing and temporary shelter,
 21 assistance to public and nonprofit sponsors of shelters and housing
 22 projects for the homeless, and short-term financial assistance.
 23 Benefits directly or indirectly received under these programs
 24 shall not be treated as income in determining eligibility
 25 requirements for other State programs ¹[or] and payments and
 26 benefits directly received by a taxpayer shall not be treated as
 27 income¹ for New Jersey gross income tax purposes ¹pursuant to
 28 section 2 of P.L....., c..... (C.....)(now pending before the
 29 Legislature as this bill)¹.

(cf: P.L. 1984, c. 180, s. 3)

30 ¹2. (New section) Gross income shall not include payments
 31 and benefits directly received by a taxpayer under homeless
 32 persons assistance programs, including but not limited to
 33 assistance in obtaining housing, temporary shelter and short-term
 34 financial assistance, as may be established pursuant to subsection
 35 h. of section 24 of P.L. 1944, c. 85 (C. 52:27C-24).¹

36 ¹[2.] ^{3.1} (New section) a. The Commissioner of the
 37 Department of Community Affairs shall establish within the
 38 Division of Housing and Development a fund for the purpose of
 39

ASSEMBLY, No. 2494
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 29, 1988

By Assemblymen HARDWICK and SCHWARTZ

1 AN ACT concerning programs to provide assistance to the
homeless and other persons of low or moderate income,
3 appropriating \$5,650,000.00, and amending and supplementing
P.L. 1944, c. 85.

5

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

1. Section 24 of P.L. 1944, c. 85 (C. 52:27C-24) is amended to
9 read as follows:

24. In addition to the powers hereinabove specifically granted,
11 the authority shall have the following powers:

a. To acquire property, real, personal or mixed, or any interest
13 therein by purchase, lease, gift, bequest, devise, exchange or
eminent domain; to hold and improve property; to operate, lease,
15 sell or exchange property; to construct or contract for the
construction of projects and community facilities other than any
17 project or facility which would be competitive with any existing
public utility as the same is defined in R.S. 48:2-13; to borrow
19 money and secure the same by bonds or mortgages upon property
held or to be held by it; but nothing herein contained shall be
21 deemed to authorize the authority to pledge the credit of this
State or to constitute any bonds or mortgages so issued by its
23 obligations of this State.

b. To receive any grant or grants to be made by the federal,
25 State, county, municipal or other governments, or from any other
sources.

c. If, for any of the purposes hereunder, the authority shall
27 find it necessary or convenient for it to acquire title to, or any
lesser interest in, real property in this State, then the authority
29 may acquire title to such property by purchase, lease or
condemnation, and shall have the right to acquire realty by
31 eminent domain in accordance with the provisions of the
"Eminent Domain Act of 1971" P.L. 1971, c. 36 (C. 20:3-1 et
33 seq.).

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.

1 d. To make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations for
the effectuation of its powers and purposes.

3 e. To provide rental assistance grants to persons of low or
moderate income to enable them to pay the fair market value for
5 housing units.

f. To provide loans and grants of temporary rental or other
7 temporary housing assistance to persons without housing or in
imminent danger of losing housing as a result of having
9 insufficient income from other sources to allow payment of the
rental or other housing costs.

11 g. In order to encourage increased availability of affordable
housing for persons of low and moderate income, to provide
13 subsidies or other reductions of interest rates on loans made to
public or private nonprofit agencies or limited dividend
15 corporations for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, repairing
or rehabilitating residential structures to be used for such housing.

17 h. To establish statewide programs to assist homeless persons,
such programs to include, but not be limited to, assistance in
19 developing and obtaining housing and temporary shelter,
assistance to public and nonprofit sponsors of shelters and housing
21 projects for the homeless, and short-term financial assistance.
Benefits directly or indirectly received under these programs
23 shall not be treated as income in determining eligibility
requirements for other State programs or for New Jersey gross
25 income tax purposes.

(cf: P.L. 1984, c. 180 s. 3)

27 2. (New section) a. The Commissioner of the Department of
Community Affairs shall establish within the Division of Housing
29 and Development a fund for the purpose of funding programs to
assist homeless persons pursuant to subsections f. and h. of
31 section 24 of P.L. 1944, c. 85 (C.52:27C-24).

b. The fund shall consist of moneys appropriated thereto by
33 section 3 of P.L. , c. (C.) (now pending before the
Legislature as this bill) and such other moneys as may be
35 appropriated or otherwise made available for that purpose.

c. Not more than 5% of moneys paid into the fund during any
37 fiscal year of the State may be used to pay the costs of the
fund's administration by the Department of Community Affairs
39 during that fiscal year.

1 3. There is appropriated to the Department of Community
 3 Affairs for the purpose of funding programs to assist homeless
 5 persons pursuant to subsections f. and h. of section 24 of P.L.
 1944, c. 85 (C. 52:27C-24) the sum of \$5,650,000.00, to be
 7 expended in the following program areas:

Homelessness Prevention Program/

7	Transitional Housing	\$3,150,000.00
	Public and Nonprofit Boarding Home	
9	Construction	\$2,000,000.00
	Shelter Improvement Program	\$ 500,000.00

11 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

13

STATEMENT

15

17 This bill would authorize the Department of Community
 19 Affairs to establish and fund a variety of programs to assist the
 21 homeless and those whose residences are in rooming or boarding
 houses or residential health care facilities. For those purposes
 the bill appropriates \$5,650,000.00, to be allocated among the
 areas of assistance specified in section 3.

23

HOUSING

25

Building and Construction

27 Provides for housing assistance to the homeless and certain other
 low and moderate income persons.

SENATE, No. 88

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1988 SESSION

By Senator VAN WAGNER

1 **AN ACT** authorizing the Public Housing and Development
Authority to establish programs to provide assistance to the
3 homeless, amending and supplementing P.L. 1944, c. 85 (C.
57:27C-1 et seq.), and making an appropriation.

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

1. Section 24 of P.L. 1944, c. 85 (C. 52:27C-24) is amended
9 to read as follows:

24. In addition to the powers hereinabove specifically granted,
11 the authority shall have the following powers:

a. To acquire property, real, personal or mixed, or any
13 interest therein by purchase, lease, gift, bequest, devise,
exchange or eminent domain; to hold and improve property; to
15 operate, lease, sell or exchange property; to construct or
contract for the construction of projects and community
17 facilities other than any project or facility which would be
competitive with any existing public utility as the same is
19 defined in R. S. 48:2-13; to borrow money and secure the same
by bonds or mortgages upon property held or to be held by it; but
21 nothing herein contained shall be deemed to authorize the
authority to pledge the credit of this State or to constitute any
23 bonds or mortgages so issued by its obligations of this State.

b. To receive any grant or grants to be made by the federal,
25 State, county, municipal or other governments, or from any
other sources.

c. If, for any of the purposes hereunder, the authority shall
27 find it necessary or convenient for it to acquire title to, or any
lesser interest in, real property in this State, then the authority
29 may acquire title to such property by purchase, lease or
condemnation, and shall have the right to acquire realty by
31 eminent domain in accordance with the provisions of the
"Eminent Domanin Act of 1971," P.L. 1971, c. 36 (C. 20:3-1
33 et seq.).

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.

1 d. To make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations for
the effectuation of its powers and purposes.

3 e. To provide rental assistance grants to persons of low or
moderate income to enable them to pay the fair market value
5 for housing units.

f. To provide loans and grants of temporary rental or other
7 temporary housing assistance to persons without housing or in
imminent danger of losing housing as a result of having
9 insufficient income from other sources to allow payment of the
rental or other housing costs.

11 g. In order to encourage increased availability of affordable
housing for persons of low and moderate income, to provide
13 subsidies or other reductions of interest rates on loans made to
public or private nonprofit agencies or limited dividend
15 corporations for the purpose of acquiring, constructing,
repairing or rehabilitating residential structures to be used for
17 such housing.

h. To establish Statewide programs to assist homeless
19 persons. Such programs shall include, but not be limited to,
assistance in developing and obtaining housing and temporary
21 shelter, assistance to public and nonprofit sponsors of shelters
and housing projects for the homeless, and short-term financial
23 assistance. Benefits directly or indirectly received under these
programs shall not be treated as income in determining
25 eligibility requirements for other State programs or for New
Jersey gross income tax purposes.

27 2. (New section) a. The Commissioner of the Department of
Community Affairs shall establish within the Division of Housing
29 and Development a fund for the purpose of funding programs to
assist homeless persons pursuant to subsection h. of section 24
31 of P. L. 1944, c. 85 (C. 52:27C-24).

b. The fund shall consist of moneys appropriated thereto by
33 section 4 of P. L. , C. . . . (C.) (now
pending before the Legislature as this bill) and such other
35 moneys as may be appropriated or otherwise made available for
that purpose.

37 c. Not more than 2% of moneys paid into the fund during any
fiscal year of the State may be used to pay the costs of the
39 fund's administration by the Department of Community Affairs
during that fiscal year.

1 consultation, the Commissioner of the Department of
Community Affairs shall issue a report describing the design and
3 implementation of the programs that will be put into effect, and
shall thereupon proceed to adopt the necessary departmental
5 regulations for their implementation.

To finance these programs, the commissioner shall establish a
7 fund, to which \$15,000,000.00 is appropriated in this bill. Use of
the fund for the various programs will be certified to the State
9 Treasurer in accordance with the terms of the commissioner's
report and the relevant regulations, and will be released by the
11 treasurer upon such certification and warrant of the comptroller.

13

HOUSING

15

Public Assistance

17

Authorizes programs to assist the homeless, appropriates
19 \$15,000,000.

ASSEMBLY, No. 1511
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel
PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1988 SESSION

By Assemblyman SCHWARTZ and Assemblywoman OGDEN

1 **AN ACT** authorizing the Public Housing and Development
 Authority to establish programs to provide assistance to the
3 homeless, amending and supplementing P.L. 1944, c. 85 (C.
 52:27C-1 et seq.), and making an appropriation.

5

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

 1. Section 24 of P.L. 1944, c. 85 (C. 52:27C-24) is amended to
9 read as follows:

 24. In addition to the powers hereinabove specifically
11 granted, the authority shall have the following powers:

 a. To acquire property, real, personal or mixed, or any
13 interest therein by purchase, lease, gift, bequest, devise,
 exchange or eminent domain; to hold and improve property; to
15 operate, lease, sell or exchange property; to construct or
 contract for the construction of projects and community
17 facilities other than any project or facility which would be
 competitive with any existing public utility as the same is
19 defined in R.S. 48:2-13; to borrow money and secure the same
 by bonds or mortgages upon property held or to be held by it; but
21 nothing herein contained shall be deemed to authorize the
 authority to pledge the credit of this State or to constitute any
23 bonds or mortgages so issued by its obligations of this State.

 b. To receive any grant or grants to be made by the federal,
25 State, county, municipal or other governments, or from any
 other sources.

27 c. If, for any of the purposes hereunder, the authority shall
 find it necessary or convenient for it to acquire title to, or any
29 lesser interest in, real property in this State, then the authority
 may acquire title to such property by purchase, lease or
31 condemnation, and shall have the right to acquire realty by
 eminent domain in accordance with the provisions of the
33 "Eminent Domain Act of 1971," P.L. 1971, c. 36 (C. 20:3-1 et
 seq.).

1 d. To make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations for
the effectuation of its powers and purposes.

3 e. To provide rental assistance grants to persons of low or
5 moderate income to enable them to pay the fair market value
for housing units.

7 f. To provide loans and grants of temporary rental or other
temporary housing assistance to persons without housing or in
9 imminent danger of losing housing as a result of having
insufficient income from other sources to allow payment of the
rental or other housing costs.

11 g. In order to encourage increased availability of affordable
housing for persons of low and moderate income, to provide
13 subsidies or other reductions of interest rates on loans made to
public or private nonprofit agencies or limited dividend
15 corporations for the purpose of acquiring, constructing,
repairing or rehabilitating residential structures to be used for
17 such housing.

19 h. To establish Statewide programs to assist homeless
persons. Such programs shall include, but not be limited to,
assistance in developing and obtaining housing and temporary
shelter, assistance to public and nonprofit sponsors of shelters
and housing projects for the homeless, and short-term financial
assistance. Benefits directly or indirectly received under these
programs shall not be treated as income in determining
eligibility requirements for other State programs or for New
Jersey gross income tax purposes.

27 2. (New section) a. The Commissioner of the Department of
Community Affairs shall establish within the Division of Housing
29 and Development a fund for the purpose of funding programs to
assist homeless persons pursuant to subsection b. of section 24
31 of P.L. 1944, c. 85 (C. 52:27C-24).

33 b. The fund shall consist of moneys appropriated thereto by
section 4 of P.L. , c. . . . (C.) (now
pending before the Legislature as this bill) and such other
35 moneys as may be appropriated or otherwise made available for
that purpose.

37 c. Not more than 5% of moneys paid into the fund during any
fiscal year of the State may be used to pay the costs of the
39 fund's administration by the Department of Community Affairs
during that fiscal year.

1 d. The Commissioner of the Department of Community
 2 Affairs shall forward to the State Treasurer a copy of his report
 3 issued pursuant to section 3 of P.L., c. . . . (C.
 4 .) (now pending before the Legislature as this bill), together
 5 with a certification of the several sums to be paid out of the
 6 fund for the several programs and purposes set forth in that
 7 report, in accordance with the rules and regulations made by the
 8 Commissioner for the implementation of those programs and
 9 purposes. Upon such certification, and warrant of the
 10 Comptroller, the State Treasurer shall release moneys from the
 11 fund for the purposes so certified and warranted.

12 3. (New section) Within six months of the date on which this
 13 act takes effect, the Commissioner of the Department of
 14 Community Affairs, after consultation with the Departments of
 15 Health, Labor and Human Services, shall issue a report on the
 16 design and implementation of programs to ameliorate the
 17 State's homelessness problem. Within 90 days after the
 18 issuance of the report, the Commissioner of the Department of
 19 Community Affairs shall, after a public hearing, adopt such
 20 rules and regulations, consistent with the provisions of section 4
 21 of this act, as may be necessary and appropriate to implement
 22 the programs recommended in the report, pursuant to the
 23 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L. 1968, c. 410 (C. 52:14B-1
 24 et seq.). All policies and programs of all agencies and
 25 instrumentalities of State government dealing with the problem
 26 of homelessness shall be consistent with the programs which the
 27 Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs shall
 28 implement.

29 4. There is appropriated to the Department of Community
 30 Affairs for the purpose of funding programs to assist homeless
 31 persons pursuant to subsection h. of section 24 of P.L. 1944, c.
 32 85 (C. 52:27C-24) the sum of \$14,335,000.00, of which no more
 33 than \$485,000.00 may be expended for administrative costs of
 34 the department in designing and implementing those programs.
 35 The balance shall be expended, as specified, in the following
 36 program areas:

37 Shelter Construction and Improvement
 Program \$2,000,000.00

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE, No.88 (2R), and ASSEMBLY, Nos. 2494 and 1511
with Assembly committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 7, 1988

The Assembly Appropriations Committee favorably reports the Assembly Committee Substitute for Senate, No. 88 (2R) and Assembly, Nos. 2494/1511 with committee amendments.

This bill, as amended, appropriates \$5,650,000.00 to the Department of Community Affairs to establish and fund a variety of programs to assist the homeless. Specifically, the appropriation is for boarding home construction, shelter improvement and homelessness prevention. In addition, the bill clarifies that direct payments and benefits received by a taxpayer pursuant to any of these programs shall not be considered income for gross income tax purposes.

The operation of this bill is linked to the enactment of a companion measure, Assembly Committee Substitute for A2495, which appropriates \$8,050,000.00 to the Department of Human Services for the provision of social services related to this bill's housing programs.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill appropriates \$5,650,000.00 from the General Fund to the Department of Community Affairs. Of this amount, \$3,150,000.00 is allocated for Homeless Prevention Program/Transitional Housing; \$2,000,000.00 for Boarding Home Construction; and \$500,000.00 for the Shelter Improvement Program.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amendments clarify that payments and benefits received directly by a taxpayer from a homeless assistance program shall not be considered income for gross income tax purposes. In addition, the amendments clarify the enactment clause and delete language providing for the reappropriation of unexpended monies.

SENATE COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 88

with Senate committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 21, 1988

The Senate County and Municipal Government Committee reports favorably and with Committee amendments Senate Bill 88.

Senate Bill 88 Sca authorizes the Department of Community Affairs to establish a wide range of programs to assist the homeless. Programs are to be established after consultation with other State agencies that deal with the homeless. After such consultation, the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs shall issue a report describing the design and implementation of the programs that will be put into effect, and shall thereupon proceed to adopt the necessary departmental regulations for their implementation.

The Commissioner is further directed to establish a fund for the implementation of programs adopted pursuant to this act, which also appropriates \$14,335,000.00 for initial funding of such programs. This appropriation is specifically allocated to four particular programmatic areas; in addition, it includes \$485,000.00 for the department's administrative expenses.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 1988 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

SENATE REVENUE, FINANCE AND APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[FIRST REPRINT]
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE, No. 88 and ASSEMBLY, Nos. 2494 and 1511

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 28, 1988

The Senate Revenue, Finance and Appropriations Committee reported Assembly Committee Substitute (1R) for Senate Bill No. 88 and Assembly Bill Nos. 2494 and 1511 favorably.

Assembly Committee Substitute (1R) for Senate Bill No. 88 and Assembly Bill Nos. 2494 and 1511 appropriates \$5,650,000 to the Department of Community Affairs to establish and fund a variety of programs to assist the homeless. Specifically, the appropriation is for boarding home construction, shelter improvement and homelessness prevention. In addition, the bill clarifies that direct payments and benefits received by a taxpayer pursuant to any of these programs shall not be considered income for gross income tax purposes.

The operation of this bill is linked to the enactment of a companion measure, Assembly Committee Substitute (1R) for Assembly Bill No. 2495, which appropriates \$8,050,000 to the Department of Human Services for the provision of social services related to this bill's housing programs.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill appropriates \$5,650,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Community Affairs. Of this amount, \$3,150,000 is allocated for Homeless Prevention Program/Transitional Housing; \$2,000,000 for Boarding Home Construction; and \$500,000 for the Shelter Improvement Program.



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

NEWS RELEASE

CN-001**Contact:** CARL GOLDEN
609-292-8956 OR 292-6000 EXT. 207**TRENTON, N.J. 08625****Release:** WED., JUNE 8, 1988

Governor Thomas H. Kean today proposed that the Legislature appropriate \$6.7 million to continue support for assistance to homeless persons and recommended that any additional funding for homeless assistance programs be considered in the context of the proposed State Budget.

Kean's recommendations were included in his line-item veto messages of two Assembly Committee substitute bills, one sponsored by Senator Richard Van Wagner, R-Monmouth, and one by Assembly Speaker Chuck Hardwick, R-Union.

The Van Wagner bill would have appropriated \$5.65 million, a figure the Governor recommended be reduced to \$3.1 million. The Hardwick bill called for an expenditure of \$8 million, a figure the Governor suggested be set at \$3.6 million.

In his messages, the Governor pointed out that his proposed Budget now under consideration in the Legislature contains a recommendation for \$45 million for homeless assistance --- a \$22 million increase over the current fiscal year.

"I am in agreement with the Legislature that more funds should be available to assist the homeless," Kean said. "That is why I have recommended that funding be increased to \$45 million."

"I believe that decisions regarding the funding of all but the most urgently needed programs are best made in the context of the Budget process where they can be evaluated alongside competing programs," Kean said. "Since the Budget process is currently underway, I cannot approve supplemental funds."

-more-

Kean said that considering the aid programs in the context of the overall Budget "fosters fiscal responsibility and allows spending programs to be evaluated in a comprehensive rather than a piecemeal manner. It also affords us a clearer picture of the fiscal impact of each appropriation on the overall Budget."

The Governor proposed retaining the \$3.15 million allocated in the Van Wagner bill to support the homeless prevention and transitional housing program, describing it as "one of New Jersey's strongest weapons in the battle against homelessness."

He noted that he has recommended a record \$4.8 million for the homeless prevention program in the proposed State Budget and, coupled with the \$3.1 in the bill, constitutes a sum which will ensure the program's stability.

In his recommendation on the Hardwick bill, the Governor proposed retaining the \$2.65 million allocated to the Division of Public Welfare and to use the funds for the State's Emergency Assistance Program to house homeless families.

He proposed that \$1 million be allocated to the Comprehensive Emergency Assistance System (CEAS), rather than the \$5.4 million proposed in the bill. The CEAS program is a network of county agencies to provide placement, employment, health counselling and transportation services for the homeless. The Governor's proposed Budget include \$5.5 million for the CEAS program.

#

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Assembly Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 88,
Assembly Bill No. 2494 and Assembly Bill No. 1511 (First Reprint)

To the Senate:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 15 of the Constitution, I am appending to Assembly Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 88, Assembly Bill No. 2494 and Assembly Bill No. 1511 (First Reprint) at the time of signing it my statement of the items, or parts thereof, to which I object so that each item, or part thereof, so objected to shall not take effect.

This supplemental appropriation bill allocates a total of \$5.65 million from the General Fund to the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). The bill allocates money to three separate programs within the DCA's Division of Housing and Development.

First, the bill allocates \$3.15 million to the Homelessness Prevention Program/Transitional Housing. Second, the bill appropriates \$2 million for a Boarding Home Construction Grant Program. Finally, the bill appropriates \$500,000 to the Shelter Improvement Program.

I agree with the sponsors of this bill, and its companion Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill No. 2495 (First Reprint), that more money should be made available for programs to benefit the homeless. That is why my recommended budget for Fiscal Year 1989 included more than \$45 million for homeless programs, representing a \$22 million increase over last year's homeless budget. The programs recommended for funding in my FY'89 budget were carefully crafted in order to help the greatest number of families who have become homeless or are in danger of becoming so. It is a budget firmly grounded in decency and one through which I have tried to meet as many of the urgent needs of our homeless citizens as possible.

However, State resources are not without limit. We were recently reminded of this fact by the State Treasurer's downward revision of estimated revenues for the coming year.

One way to foster fiscal responsibility is to have appropriations considered in the context of the budget process. That process, which is currently ongoing,

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allows spending proposals to be evaluated in a comprehensive rather than piecemeal manner and affords us a clear picture of the fiscal impact of each appropriation on the overall budget. Many worthwhile programs are competing for limited State funds.

In light of the fact that we are now in the midst of this year's budget process, I am reluctant to approve \$2.5 million in supplemental funding for the Boarding Home Construction Grant Program and the Shelter Improvement Program. My recommended FY'89 budget includes \$2 million for each of these programs. While there may be a need for additional funding of these programs, I think it is best if that determination is made during the budget process.

With respect to the appropriation contained in the bill for the Homelessness Prevention Program/Transitional Housing, I am retaining the sum of \$3.15 million in this bill as a supplemental allocation to this Program. I am advised by my Commissioner of Community Affairs that there is an urgent need for funds for the Homelessness Prevention Program since all 21 of our counties have run out of money. The Homelessness Prevention Program is one of New Jersey's strongest weapons in the battle against homelessness. That Program launches its attack in the most effective of ways, by preventing homelessness before it occurs.

On another front, the Transitional Housing component of this Program provides a safety net for those families who, for one reason or another, are not able to secure Homelessness Prevention benefits in time to prevent displacement. Transitional housing offers a temporary, humane living situation for these families.

The supplemental funds that I have approved in this bill will enable our counties to open the doors of their homelessness prevention offices and immediately begin servicing citizens in danger of becoming homeless. In addition, these supplemental monies, coupled with the record \$4.8 million that I have recommended for the Homelessness Prevention Program in next year's budget, should ensure the stability of this Program. Lastly, the funds will provide a buffer, through Transitional Housing, for those families who have recently lost their homes.

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Accordingly, I herewith append the following statement of objections to the sums, or parts thereof, appropriated by this bill:

Page 3, Section 4, Line 15: Delete "5,650,000.00" insert
"3,150,000.00"

Page 3, Section 4, Lines 19-20: Delete in entirety

Respectfully,

GOVERNOR

Attest:

Chief Counsel

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill No. 2495 (First Reprint)

To the Senate:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 15 of the Constitution, I am appending to Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill No. 2495 (First Reprint) at the time of signing it my statement of the items, or parts thereof, to which I object so that each item, or part thereof, so objected to shall not take effect.

This supplemental appropriation bill allocates \$8.05 million from the General Fund to the Department of Human Services. Of the \$8.05 million, \$5.4 million is appropriated to the Division of Youth and Family Services to provide additional money for social and support services for homeless families. The remaining \$2.65 million is allocated to the Division of Public Welfare to provide an increase in the State's portion of the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payment for boarding home and residential health care facility residents.

Sadly, we live in a society where some families are without homes. The brutal reality of their circumstance is illustrated time and again. In New Jersey, I believe both government and the private sector have dedicated considerable energy and resources to solving the problems faced by the homeless. Our endeavors are driven by a sense of decency. Our goal is singular; to help less fortunate families find homes.

As I stated in my message to this bill's companion, Assembly Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 88, Assembly Bill No. 2494 and Assembly Bill No. 1511, I am in agreement with the Legislature that more funds should be available to assist the homeless. As such, I have recommended that funding for homeless programs be increased by \$22 million for the new fiscal year bringing the total appropriation to more than \$45 million.

With the exception of the allocation to the Comprehensive Emergency Assistance System (CEAS), this bill, as framed, does little to address the immediate needs of the homeless population most in crisis - welfare mothers and their children. Rather, the bill makes a substantial appropriation to programs

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that will have a less direct impact on the problem of homelessness. While these other programs may be deserving of more funds, I have explained that I believe decisions regarding the funding of all but the most urgently needed programs are best made in the context of the budget process where they can be evaluated alongside competing programs. Since the budget process is currently ongoing, I cannot approve supplemental funds for an SSI increase or for a new program to aid dependent populations.

With regard to CEAS, I am retaining \$1 million of the \$2.7 million allocation in this bill for that program. CEAS encompasses a network of agencies within each county through which services, such as placement, employment and health counselling and transportation, are provided to homeless families. The CEAS program is sensitive to the needs of individual communities and has been highly successful in getting the right services to the right people in a timely manner. Because I consider the program a wise investment, my recommended budget for the coming fiscal year already includes \$5.5 million for CEAS. I am confident that the additional \$1 million I am approving for CEAS will be put to good use.

During the past several months, the Department of Human Services has intensified its outreach to help families currently living in welfare motels find clean, safe places to live. I am not unmindful of the difficulty involved in this undertaking in light of our limited housing stock. However, we will remain committed to this task. In order that the Department of Human Services may continue its program of outreach and placement, I am retaining the \$2.65 million allocated to the Division of Public Welfare by this bill. By redirecting these monies so that they may be used to help families currently enrolled in the Emergency Assistance Program, it is my hope that every family now living in a welfare motel will soon have a home.

Accordingly, I herewith append the following statement of objections to the sums, or parts thereof, appropriated by this bill:

Page 1, Section 1, Line 18: Delete "5,400,000" insert "1,000,000"

Page 1, Section 1, Line 20: Delete "2,700,000" insert "1,000,000"

Page 1, Section 1, Lines 21-26: Delete in entirety

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Page 2, Section 1, Lines 1-7: Delete in entirety

Page 2, Section 1, Line 10: Delete "8,050,000" insert "3,650,000"

Respectfully,

GOVERNOR

Attest:

Chief Counsel