

52:27D-43.8

**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST**  
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**NJSA:** 52:27D-43.8

(Hispanic women-  
-establish centers  
to provide  
services)

**LAWS OF:** 1990

**CHAPTER:** 83

**Bill No:** S2768

**Sponsor(s):** Lipman

**Date Introduced:** June 11, 1990

**Committee: Assembly:** -----

**Senate:** State Government

**Amended during passage:** Yes      Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks.

**Date of Passage: Assembly:** June 28, 1990

**Senate:** June 28, 1990

**Date of Approval:** August 8, 1990

**Following statements are attached if available:**

**Sponsor statement:** Yes

**Committee Statement: Assembly:** No

**Senate:** Yes

**Fiscal Note:** No

**Veto Message:** No

**Message on signing:** No

**Following were printed:**

**Reports:** No

**Hearings:** No

**KBG/SLJ**

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[FIRST REPRINT]

SENATE, No. 2768

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JUNE 11, 1990

By Senator LIPMAN

1 AN ACT establishing not less than two, but not more than <sup>1</sup>[four]  
2 five<sup>1</sup>, demonstration centers to provide job training programs  
3 and other services for Hispanic women, supplementing  
4 P.L.1974, c.87 (C.52:27D-43.8 et seq.).

5

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

8 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Hispanic  
9 Women's Demonstration Resource Centers Act."

10 2. The Legislature finds and declares that:

11 a. Hispanics in New Jersey represent 9% of the total  
12 population and constitute the second largest and fastest growing  
13 minority in the State.

14 b. In 1985, 32% of all Hispanic families were headed by  
15 women; 43% of whom were families in poverty.

16 c. Hispanic women are concentrated in low-skill, low-salary  
17 jobs, working fewer hours per year and earning less than either  
18 black or white women; their disadvantaged employment status is  
19 linked to the fact that Hispanic women have completed fewer  
20 years of education than non-Hispanic women; only 6% have  
21 completed college and a mere 43% of Hispanic women as  
22 compared to 69% of non-Hispanic women have graduated from  
23 high school.

24 d. Contributing to the Hispanic women's plight is the fact that  
25 cultural differences and language barriers are not acknowledged  
26 by the present educational, career and social services system in  
27 New Jersey; although some agencies have bilingual staff, they  
28 lack the bicultural knowledge of the socioeconomic obstacles that  
29 affect an Hispanic woman's ability to fully participate in the  
30 programs currently offered.

31 3. As used in this act:

32 a. "Center" means an Hispanic women's demonstration  
33 resource center established pursuant to this act which is intended  
34 to enhance the employability of Hispanic women.

35 b. "Department" means the Department of Community Affairs.

36 c. "Division" means the Division on Women in the Department  
37 of Community Affairs.

38 d. "Director" means the Director of the Division on Women.

39 e. "Hispanic" means a person who is of Spanish or Latin

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:

<sup>1</sup> Senate SSG committee amendments adopted June 25, 1990.

1 American culture, with origins in Mexico, South or Central,  
2 America, or the Caribbean Islands.

3 f. "Office" means the Office of Hispanic Affairs in the  
4 Department of Community Affairs.

5 4. The division shall establish not less than two but not more  
6 than <sup>1</sup>[four] five<sup>1</sup> Hispanic women's demonstration resource  
7 centers; one in conjunction with an existing facility in southern  
8 New Jersey and the other in conjunction with an existing facility  
9 in northern New Jersey. The centers shall be established in  
10 locations serving populations of Hispanic women in northern and  
11 southern New Jersey through the issuance of grants to public or  
12 private nonprofit organizations servicing either women or  
13 Hispanic populations. In reviewing grant applications under this  
14 act, the division shall give due consideration to the needs of the  
15 Hispanic women in the municipality in which the applicant is  
16 located and surrounding area.

17 There is created the Advisory Board for the Hispanic Women's  
18 Demonstration Resource Centers which shall consist of nine  
19 public members, two of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker  
20 of the General Assembly, not more than one of whom shall be  
21 from the same political party, two of whom shall be appointed by  
22 the President of the Senate, not more than one of whom shall be  
23 from the same political party, and five of whom shall be  
24 appointed by the Governor with no more than three from the  
25 same political party. When making these appointments the  
26 appointing authorities shall give due consideration to individuals  
27 having expertise in Hispanic women's affairs and being members  
28 of organized Hispanic groups, including the Hispanic Women's  
29 Task Force. The advisory board shall be appointed within 60 days  
30 of the enactment of this act. Vacancies in the membership of  
31 the advisory board shall be filled in the same manner as the  
32 original appointments were made. The division shall develop  
33 comprehensive guidelines for the establishment, goals and  
34 operation of the centers. In carrying out the purpose of this act,  
35 the director shall consult with the Office of Hispanic Affairs and  
36 the Advisory Board for the Hispanic Women's Demonstration  
37 Resource Centers.

38 5. The centers shall provide:

39 a. Outreach to the Hispanic community to inform the  
40 community of the center's resources;

41 b. Basic English language skills and bilingual and bicultural  
42 resources;

43 c. Training in assertiveness, survival and coping skills;

44 d. Educational evaluation services by a qualified bilingual  
45 counselor employed by the center, which services include  
46 screening, assessment and referral to basic educational,  
47 vocational training and other educational programs;

48 e. Job counseling services which are specifically designed to

1 prepare women to enter or reenter the work force by assisting  
2 them in acquiring knowledge of their talents and skills in relation  
3 to existing traditional and nontraditional job opportunities and to  
4 those which are emerging as a result of new employment trends;

5 f. Self-help programs and mentoring projects, including  
6 workshops, group discussions, and dissemination of information  
7 about existing federal, State and local employment, education,  
8 health, and other community services which provide assistance in  
9 overcoming barriers to employment. These programs shall  
10 include outreach and information about other programs which are  
11 determined to be of interest and benefit to working parents,  
12 women newly entering or reentering the work force after a  
13 prolonged absence from it, those in need of financial management  
14 services, including information and assistance with respect to  
15 credit, insurance, taxes, loans and related financial matters, and  
16 women who need information about a diversity of housing  
17 problems;

18 g. Career information services, job training including  
19 internships, and job placement services which assist participants  
20 in gaining admission to existing public and private job training  
21 programs and in gaining job opportunities by cooperating,  
22 whenever possible, with appropriate State and local government  
23 agencies and private employers. These training and placement  
24 services shall foster the development of partnerships with  
25 industry, particularly those concerns which are associated with  
26 urban enterprise zones, and the enhancement of the neighborhood  
27 and communities which surround the centers. To the extent  
28 possible, the training and placement services shall consult with  
29 the area private industry councils established pursuant to the  
30 provisions of the federal Job Training Partnership Act,  
31 Pub.L.97-300 (29 U.S.C. § 1501 et seq.), and the Division of  
32 Employment Services in the Department of Labor in order to help  
33 identify local job opportunities or areas of expansion in private  
34 industry;

35 h. Information and referral services concerning: legal issues  
36 such as domestic violence, sexual assault, family support and sex  
37 discrimination; health care issues such as family planning,  
38 substance abuse, nutrition and mental health; public assistance  
39 programs; and child care services.

40 Each center may purchase services from or contract with  
41 individuals, county or municipal governments, school districts,  
42 county colleges or county vocational schools to carry out the  
43 provisions of this section.

44 6. The centers and programs established under this act shall  
45 emphasize activities which provide training and other  
46 employment related services which are designed to enhance the  
47 employability and earnings of Hispanic women and impact on the  
48 quality of their lives and those of their families. The centers and

1 programs shall, to the extent possible, identify existing job  
2 opportunities for women and assist those women who utilize the  
3 centers in obtaining employment.

4 7. The division shall make a study of employment needs of  
5 individuals who use the service of the centers and of existing  
6 programs and services which are effective in meeting those  
7 needs. The division shall also coordinate community  
8 organizations, women's groups, and public agencies to maximize  
9 the utilization of existing programs and resources. The  
10 coordination shall include, but not be limited to, the Office of  
11 Hispanic Affairs in the Department of Community Affairs, the  
12 Division of Vocational Education in the Department of Education,  
13 the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services in the  
14 Department of Labor, and the Division of Public Welfare in the  
15 Department of Human Services. The goal of this coordination  
16 shall be to put Hispanic women in touch with existing programs  
17 and to foster cooperation and the exchange of information among  
18 all departments and agencies of State government which sponsor  
19 employment and related programs of special interest to women.

20 8. Each center shall compile and maintain a description and  
21 assessment of each program it operates pursuant to this act  
22 including, but not limited to, the following information: the  
23 number of women served; the number who enrolled in English  
24 language courses; the number given educational counseling; the  
25 number given career counseling; the number who obtained  
26 employment; the number who enrolled in educational or  
27 vocational courses; the number of those enrolled who completed  
28 the courses; the cost per woman for each enrollment in a  
29 program; the number who were referred for medical assistance;  
30 the number who were referred to domestic violence shelters; the  
31 number referred for government assistance; the number placed in  
32 jobs; the number no longer receiving public assistance funds; the  
33 number referred for legal assistance; and the total number of  
34 staff and the ratio of staff to persons served under the program.

35 Data and findings shall be made available to the Governor and  
36 the Legislature annually.

37 9. The director:

38 a. May seek, receive and make use of any funds which may be  
39 available from federal or other sources in order to augment State  
40 funds which are appropriated pursuant to this act, and shall make  
41 every effort to qualify the program for federal funding;

42 b. Shall apply for and make use of funds made available from  
43 federal and other sources for job training, including funds  
44 appropriated to the State under the federal Job Training  
45 Partnership Act, Pub.L.97-300 (29 U.S.C. § 1501 et seq.); and

46 c. May establish guidelines governing the expenditure of funds  
47 to carry out the provisions of this act.

48 10. The department shall report annually to the Governor and

1 the Legislature on the implementation of this act.

2 11. This act shall take effect immediately.

3

4

5 STATE GOVERNMENT

6

7 Establishes demonstration centers to provide certain services to

8 Hispanic women.

## STATEMENT

1  
2  
3 This bill requires the Division on Women in the Department of  
4 Community Affairs to establish not less than two but not more  
5 than four Hispanic women's demonstration resource centers. The  
6 centers are to be established in conjunction with existing  
7 facilities, with at least one in northern and one in southern New  
8 Jersey.

9 The centers will provide training in English language skills;  
10 educational evaluation services; job counseling services; self-help  
11 programs; career information, job training, and job placement  
12 services; and legal, health care and child care services.

13 The Division on Women is required to make a study of the  
14 employment needs of persons using the services of the centers.  
15 Each center is required to maintain a description and assessment  
16 of programs it operates pursuant to the bill. The Department of  
17 Community Affairs will report annually to the Legislature and  
18 the Governor on the implementation of the act. The bill also  
19 creates an Advisory Board for Hispanic Women's Demonstration  
20 Resource Centers which is to consist of nine public members.

## STATE GOVERNMENT

21  
22  
23  
24  
25 Establishes demonstration centers to provide certain services to  
26 Hispanic women.

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT AND FEDERAL  
AND INTERSTATE RELATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 2768**

with Senate committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 25, 1990

The Senate State Government and Federal and Interstate Relations Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate, No. 2768.

This bill directs the Division on Women in the Department of Community Affairs to establish not less than two but not more than five Hispanic women's demonstration resource centers. One center shall be established in conjunction with an existing facility in northern New Jersey and another shall be established in conjunction with an existing facility in southern New Jersey. The centers will provide training in English language skills; educational evaluation services; job counseling services; self-help programs; career information, job training, and job placement services; and legal, health care and child care services.

The bill creates an Advisory Board for Hispanic Women's Demonstration Resource Centers which shall consist of nine public members, two of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly, two of whom shall be appointed by the President of the Senate, and five of whom shall be appointed by the Governor.

The Division on Women is required to make a study of the employment needs of persons using the services of the centers. Each center shall maintain a description and assessment of programs it operates. The Department of Community Affairs will report annually to the Legislature and the Governor on the implementation of the act.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to increase the maximum number of centers from four to five.