

30:6-23 to 30:6-32

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

(Handicapped and blind -- establishes a commodities and service council)

NJSA 30:6-23 to 30:6-32

LAWS 1981

CHAPTER 488

Bill No. S1673

Sponsor(s) Caufield

Date Introduced Jan. 13, 1981

Committee: Assembly Institutions; Health and Welfare

Senate Institutions, Health and Welfare

Amended during passage

Yes

~~No~~

Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of Passage: Assembly Jan. 11, 1982

Senate May 14, 1981

Date of approval Jan. 12, 1982

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement Yes ~~No~~

Committee Statement: Assembly Yes ~~No~~

Senate Yes ~~No~~

Fiscal Note Yes ~~No~~

Veto Message ~~Yes~~ No

Message on signing ~~Yes~~ No

Following were printed:

Reports ~~Yes~~ No

Hearings ~~Yes~~ No

6/22/81

PP JAN 1983

CHAPTER 488 LAWS OF N. J. 1981  
APPROVED 1-12-82

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SENATE, No. 1673

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 13, 1981

By Senator CAUFIELD

Referred to Committee on Institutions, Health and Welfare

AN ACT establishing a commodities and services council for blind and other severely handicapped persons and supplementing Title 30 of the Revised Statutes.

1 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
2 of New Jersey:

1 1. The purpose of this act is to further the policy of the State  
2 to encourage and assist blind and other severely handicapped  
3 persons to achieve maximum personal independence through pro-  
4 ductive employment by assuring a continuous market for their  
5 commodities and services, thereby enhancing their dignity and  
6 capacity for self-support and minimizing their dependence on  
7 welfare and the need for costly institutionalization.

1 2. As used in this act;

2 a. "Blind person" means a person whose vision in his better  
3 eye with proper correction does not exceed 20/200 or who has a  
4 field defect in his better eye with proper correction which contracts  
5 the peripheral field so that the diameter of the visual field subtends  
6 an angle no greater than 20 degrees.

7 b. "Central nonprofit agency" means an agency designated by  
8 the commissioner pursuant to section 6 of this act.

9 c. "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Department  
10 of Human Services.

11 d. "Rehabilitation facility" means a rehabilitation facility  
12 approved by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services or  
13 the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired and which is  
14 engaged in the production of commodities or the provision of  
15 services in connection with which not less than 75% of the total  
16 hours of direct labor is performed by blind or other severely  
17 handicapped persons excluding any hours of supervision, admini-  
18 stration, inspection or shipping.

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

19 e. "Severely handicapped person" means a person with a  
20 physical, mental or emotional disability, other than blindness but  
21 including a visual impairment, which is a substantial handicap to  
22 employment and prevents that person from currently engaging in  
23 normal competitive employment.

1 3. There is established in the Department of Human Services,  
2 the Commodities and Services Council for blind and other severely  
3 handicapped persons. The council shall consist of the Director of  
4 the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, the Director  
5 of the Division of Purchase and Property; the chief of the Bureau  
6 of State Use Industries; the President of the New Jersey Business  
7 and Industry Association; the President of the New Jersey AFL-  
8 CIO; the Executive Director of the Commission for the Blind and  
9 Visually Impaired; the President of the New Jersey Association  
10 of Rehabilitation Facilities; or their designees; three citizens as  
11 at-large members, at least one of whom shall be a blind person,  
12 and one of whom shall represent the general public. The at-large  
13 members shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and  
14 consent of the Senate, for terms of 3 years, except that of the  
15 first at-large members appointed, one shall be appointed for a  
16 term of 3 years, one for a term of 2 years, and one for a term of  
17 1 year.

1 4. The members of the council shall organize annually by the  
2 selection of one of their members to serve as chairman. Members  
3 shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for all  
4 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

1 5. The duties of the council shall include:

2 a. Developing, in conjunction with the Division of Purchase and  
3 Property in the Department of the Treasury a list of commodities  
4 and services which shall be set aside for purchase through approved  
5 rehabilitation facilities and establishing a fair market price for  
6 those commodities and services.

7 b. Recommending to the commissioner a central nonprofit  
8 agency.

9 c. Encouraging the purchase of commodities and services of  
10 blind and other severely handicapped persons by political sub-  
11 divisions of the State.

1 6. The commissioner shall designate a nonprofit agency to facili-  
2 tate the distribution of orders received from various State agencies  
3 for commodities and services on the State procurement list among  
4 approved rehabilitation facilities and to insure the effective and  
5 efficient administration of this act.

1 7. The functions and operations of the central nonprofit agency  
2 shall include but not be limited to the following;

3 a. Receiving and processing all applications from approved  
4 rehabilitation facilities for the setting aside of specific commodities  
5 and services to be provided by the applying facilities;

6 b. Reviewing and certifying the capabilities of an applying  
7 facility to provide a specific commodity or service in keeping with  
8 quality standards, quantity and timely delivery requirements;

9 c. Preparing a detailed annual report for submission to the  
10 council;

11 d. Establishing and publishing a list of commodities and services  
12 provided by approved facilities, with timely revisions for distri-  
13 bution to all purchasing agents of the State and its political sub-  
14 divisions\***[; and]**\* \*.\*

15 \***[e. Carrying out the necessary functions for administering a**  
16 **consortium of approved rehabilitation facilities.]**\*

1 8. State agencies shall procure through the central nonprofit  
2 agency those commodities and services which have been set aside  
3 for purchase from approved rehabilitation facilities.

1 9. This act does not apply in any case where commodities are  
2 available for procurement by any State agency from any other  
3 State agency or political subdivision of the State as provided in  
4 R. S. 30:4-95.

1 10. The commissioner shall promulgate such rules and regula-  
2 tions as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.

1 11. This act shall take effect immediately.

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- 6 b. Reviewing and certifying the capabilities of an applying  
7 facility to provide a specific commodity or service in keeping with  
8 quality standards, quantity and timely delivery requirements;
- 9 c. Preparing a detailed annual report for submission to the  
10 council;
- 11 d. Establishing and publishing a list of commodities and services  
12 provided by approved facilities, with timely revisions for distri-  
13 bution to all purchasing agents of the State and its political sub-  
14 divisions; and
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- 1 10. The commissioner shall promulgate such rules and regula-  
2 tions as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.
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#### STATEMENT

This bill would establish in the Department of Human Services a Commodities and Services Council for the purpose of assuring a State agency market for the commodities and services produced by blind and other severely handicapped persons in approved rehabilitation facilities, thereby enhancing training and work opportunities for said persons and ultimately encouraging and assisting them to achieve maximum independence and personal dignity through productive employment.

The list of commodities and services which are set aside for purchase through the approved rehabilitation facilities will be jointly developed by the council and the Division of Purchase and Property.

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ASSEMBLY INSTITUTIONS, HEALTH AND WELFARE  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO  
**SENATE, No. 1673**  
[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 29, 1981

This bill requires State agencies to purchase certain services and commodities produced by blind and other severely handicapped individuals working in rehabilitation facilities, such as sheltered workshops, and establishes a Commodities and Services Council in the Department of Human Services.

The members of the council shall include representatives from State agencies (i.e., the Divisions of Vocational Rehabilitation Services and Purchase and Property, the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and the Bureau of State Use Industries), organized labor, business, and the public. The council is required to develop a list of commodities and services produced by the facilities that will be set aside for purchase by State agencies and to establish a fair market price for the items. The council will recommend to the commissioner a central nonprofit agency which will be responsible for coordinating the production and purchase of the items.

The Department of Human Services strongly supports this legislation.

The committee agreed with the concept of this legislation and released the bill without amendment.

SENATE INSTITUTIONS, HEALTH AND WELFARE  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 1673**

with Senate committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MARCH 30, 1981

As amended, this bill requires State agencies to purchase certain commodities and services produced by blind and other severely handicapped persons in rehabilitation facilities and establishes a Commodities and Services Council in the Department of Human Services.

The members of the council include representatives from State agencies, business, organized labor and the public. The council is required to develop a list of commodities and services produced by rehabilitation facilities that will be set aside for purchase by State agencies and to establish a fair market price for the items. The council also will recommend to the commissioner a central nonprofit agency which will be responsible for coordinating production and purchasing of the commodities.

Committee amendments delete subsection e. of section 7 to clarify the duties of the central nonprofit agency.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE TO  
**SENATE, No. 1673**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 8, 1981

Senate Bill No. 1673 of 1980 establishes a commodities and services council for the blind and other severely handicapped persons.

"This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note."

The Office of Legislative Services states that enactment of this legislation would result in a minimal expenditure to the State.

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In compliance with written request received, there is hereby submitted a fiscal estimate for the above bill, pursuant to P. L. 1980, c. 67.



JANUARY 13, 1982

- 1 -

S-1673, sponsored by Senator John Caufield (D-Essex), establishing a Commodities and Services Council within the Department of Human Services to assure a state agency market for products produced by the blind and the handicapped.

S-3504, sponsored by Senator John Russo (D-Ocean), providing that a deputy clerk of the Appellate Division of the State judiciary be in the unclassified division of the civil service.

S-3157, sponsored by Senator Steven Perskie (D-Atlantic), providing for a uniform method of fixing municipal ward boundaries, as recommended by the County and Municipal Government Study (Musto) Commission.

The bill applies to all municipalities (52 in the State) which have wards, and boundaries would be fixed following adoption of certain government forms; following adoption of an ordinance requiring ward divisions; and following the promulgation by the Governor of the decennial federal census.

Ward boundaries will be narrowly drawn--with no more than a 10-percent population deviation between wards--by a commission consisting of members of the county board of elections. No changes in the boundaries can be made within 75 days of a primary or general election.

S-3351, sponsored by Senator Wayne Dumont Jr. (R-Sussex), appropriating \$600,000 for the initial costs of establishing county colleges in Sussex and Warren Counties. Under the bill, the new colleges, needed because of the increased student populations in these counties, will operate out of existing school buildings. The money will not be used for the construction of any new buildings or campuses.

S-1549, sponsored by Senator Joseph Merlino (D-Mercer) and known as the "Community Development Bond Act of 1982," would authorize the issuance of \$85 million in bonds for urban revitalization: \$45 million for a State program similar to the federal UDAG program, to be administered by the new Department of Commerce; \$30 million for capital construction projects in cities, to be administered by the Department of Community Affairs; and \$10 million for industrial parks, to be administered by the Economic

~~State~~