

October 27, 1971

R.S. 40:23-6.38 to 6.44

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY OF R.S. 40:23-6.38 to 40:23-6.44
(County offices on aging; State aid)

copy 2

Similar bills introduced, 1967-1970

1969 - S664 (Coffee, Knowlton, Italiano)
1970 - S366 (Coffee, Knowlton, Italiano)

L. 1970, Chapter 248 - A439

January 29 - Introduced by Haelig and others.

May 11 - Passed in Assembly, amended.

June 22 - Passed in Senate under emergency resolution.

October 8 - Returned by Governor with recommended amendment.

October 8 - Amended as recommended, re-enacted in Assembly under emergency resolution.

October 8 - Re-enacted in Senate.

October 28 - Approved, Chapter 248.

Amended during passage (copies enclosed of original bill and all amendments).

No statement.

Clipping located (V.F.--N.J.--Old age)
"Bill will aid elderly" NEN 6/23/70.

JH/PC

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ASSEMBLY, No. 439

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 29, 1970

By Assemblymen HAELIG, MACRAE, KRAVARIK
and GARIBALDI

Referred to Committee on County and Municipal Government

AN ACT to provide for the establishment of county offices on aging
and for State aid for the operations thereof.

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

1 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares that:

2 (a) There are nearly 700,000 people over the age of 65 in this
3 State, and that these citizens, now numbering almost 10% of the
4 State's population, are of special concern because their numbers
5 are growing faster than the rest of the population and because,
6 increasingly there is no room for them in the labor market.

7 (b) During the last century life expectancy has been lengthened
8 by 20 years. Since 1900 the total population of New Jersey has
9 doubled but our senior population has quadrupled. With the
10 lengthening of life expectancy has come the impact of technology
11 which permits earlier retirement and makes employment opportu-
12 nities unavailable for much of the older population.

13 (c) The result of these changes is that many older people are
14 socially isolated and economically deprived. Lack of preparation
15 for changed family relationships and social situations create crises
16 for which assistance is not readily available. Many such crises
17 can be averted if the problems of aging are anticipated and made
18 the subject of prior planning.

19 (d) A central place is needed, therefore, where older citizens
20 facing such situations can turn for assistance through information
21 on community resources. Those who need such information vary
22 from the middle-aged unemployed to the recent retiree and the
23 helpless aged, from the affluent to the very poor, from the rural
24 citizen to the urban and suburban resident, from the learned to
25 the uneducated.

26 (e) Efforts to avert crises among this expanding segment of
27 the population must have two major goals: the development of an
28 understanding of the nature of aging so that people may grow
29 old with dignity and independence; and, the ready identification
30 and availability of community resources for older people, to whom
31 they are often inaccessible or nonexistent. These resources need
32 to be identified, expanded and made more immediately available
33 to those who need them.

34 (f) While the Government of the State of New Jersey has
35 recognized some of its special responsibilities in this area by
36 creating the State Division on Aging, it has become apparent that
37 this agency will function more effectively by providing a means
38 by which it can achieve a closer relationship with the people it
39 seeks to help, and through which it can increase access to desirable
40 programs.

41 (g) It is apparent, therefore, that channels for the distribution
42 of information on the resources available to older people, should
43 be established throughout the State so as to be conveniently avail-
44 able to all segments of our older population, and that they should
45 be maintained by county governments.

1 2. The board of chosen freeholders of any county may by reso-
2 lution establish a county office on aging.

1 3. Each county office on aging shall have the power and duty
2 and it shall be the function of said office to:

3 (a) Maintain a central source of information on programs and
4 services for older people;

5 (b) Circulate current knowledge related to aging to the public
6 at large and to individuals and groups to which such knowledge
7 would be of benefit;

8 (c) Stimulate expansion of existing services to more adequately
9 meet the needs of older people and, where desirable, encourage
10 new programs to meet these needs.

1 4. The board of chosen freeholders shall appoint an executive
2 director, who shall be a person qualified by training and experience
3 to direct the work of such office, to administer the work of the
4 county office on aging.

1 5. The board of chosen freeholders may receive and expend
2 moneys from the State, Federal Government or private individuals,
3 corporations or associations thereof, to meet the expenses of the
4 county office on aging.

1 6. There shall be appropriated and paid annually to each county
2 office on aging, subject to the approval of the Commissioner of the
3 Department of Community Affairs, an amount equal to the amount

4 appropriated by the board of chosen freeholders for the county
5 office on aging, provided, however, that no county shall receive
6 more than \$20,000.00 in State aid hereunder in any calendar year.
7 Payments shall be made by the State Treasurer, upon certificate
8 of the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs and
9 warrant of the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting,
10 on or before July 1 of the calendar year for which State aid here-
11 under is appropriated.

1 7. The Director of the Division on Aging shall issue and promul-
2 gate rules and regulations for the proper control and management
3 of activities of the county offices on aging, for the certification of
4 persons to hold the position of executive director and for the ad-
5 ministration of grant funds available for the purposes of this act,
6 and may issue and promulgate such other rules and regulations
7 necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.

1 8. This act shall take effect immediately.

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 439

—♦—
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
—♦—

ADOPTED MAY 7, 1970

Amend page 2, section 6, line 3, after "to", insert "one-half of".

Amend page 3, section 6, line 4, omit "appropriated" through "for",
and insert "of annual expense of".

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENTS TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 439
[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ADOPTED OCTOBER 8, 1970

Amend page 3, section 6, line 10, delete "July 1", insert "December 31".

Amend page 3, section 6, line 10, after the word "of", and before the word "calendar", delete the word "the", and insert "each".

Amend page 3, section 6, line 11, after the word "year", delete "for which State aid hereunder is appropriated", and insert ". This payment shall constitute reimbursement to the county for the State aid portion of the annual expense of each county office on aging during the year in which the payment is made.".

Amend page 3, section 8, line 1, delete "immediately", and insert "January 1, 1971".

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

October 8, 1970

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 439

To the General Assembly:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14(b) of the Constitution, I herewith return Assembly Bill No. 439, with my objections, for reconsideration.

Assembly Bill No. 439 would provide for the funding of the county offices on aging by the State in an amount equal to one-half of the annual expenses of each office or \$20,000.00, whichever is less. The county offices on aging provide centers for dispensation of advice and assistance to the agent concerning housing, health, nutrition and other personal needs. The offices were initially funded for a three-year cycle under Title III of the federal Older American Act. As that funding expires I believe that it is incumbent upon us at the State level to encourage the continuity of this critically important service by financially aiding in its maintenance at a level commensurate with county interests.

Unfortunately, Assembly Bill No. 439 passed the Legislature on June 22, just eight days before July 1, set forth in the bill as the date on or before which the State Treasurer must make payments upon certificate of the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs and warrant of the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting. In order to allow for the proper implementation of this law and to permit counties to anticipate the receipt of these funds in their 1971 budgets, I am suggesting certain changes which I believe will provide the necessary clarification.

Accordingly, I herewith return Assembly Bill No. 439 for reconsideration and recommend that it be amended as follows:

Page 3, Section 6, Line 10: Delete "July 1" and insert "December 31".

Page 3, Section 6, Line 10: After the word "of" and before the word "calendar" delete the word "the" and insert "each".

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Assembly Bill No. 439

Page 2

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Page 3, Section 8, Line 1: Delete "immediately" and insert "January 1, 1971".

Respectfully,

/S/ William T. Cahill

GOVERNOR

Attest:

/S/ Jean E. Mulford

Secretary to the Governor