

26:1A-35.5 to 26:1A-35.10

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

Compiled by the NJ State Law Library

LAWS OF: 1999 **CHAPTER:** 265

NJSA: 26:1A-35.5 to 26:1A-35.10 (NJ Council on Physical Fitness)

BILL NO: A2953 (Substituted for S1866)

SPONSOR(S): Thompson

DATE INTRODUCED: March 11, 1999

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** Health

SENATE: ----

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: **ASSEMBLY:** June 17, 1999

SENATE: September 30, 1999

DATE OF APPROVAL: November 3, 1999

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL: Original
(Amendments during passage denoted by superscript numbers)

A2953

SPONSORS STATEMENT: (Begins on page 4 of original bill) [Yes](#)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** [Yes](#)

SENATE: No

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

S1866

SPONSORS STATEMENT: (Begins on page 4 of original bill) [Yes](#)
Bill and Sponsors Statement identical to A2953

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** No

SENATE: [Yes](#)
Identical to Assembly Statement for A2953

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext. 103 or refdesk@njstatelib.org

REPORTS:

No

HEARINGS:

No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:

No

P.L. 1999, CHAPTER 265, *approved November 3, 1999*
Assembly, No. 2953

1 **AN ACT** establishing a New Jersey Council on Physical Fitness and
2 Sports and supplementing Title 26 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. As used in this act:

8 "Council" means the New Jersey Council on Physical Fitness and
9 Sports.

10 "Physical Fitness" means good or improved life-style habits of a
11 State resident through the utilization of recreational opportunities,
12 consistent and medically correct exercise and leisure time management
13 for the express purpose of decreasing stress-related maladies, thereby
14 promoting a more healthful environment for the citizens of the State.

15 "Sports" means those team or individual competitive athletic
16 activities that are participated in on an amateur, nonprofit basis by the
17 citizens of the State for the express purposes of enjoyment, exercise
18 and sportsmanship.

19

20 2. There is established in the Department of Health and Senior
21 Services a New Jersey Council on Physical Fitness and Sports which
22 shall serve the citizens of the State by developing safe, healthful and
23 enjoyable physical fitness and sports programs. The council shall
24 provide instruments of motivation and education, and shall promote
25 public awareness to ensure that all citizens of the State have the
26 opportunity to pursue a more healthful lifestyle.

27

28 3. a. The council shall consist of 16 members, including: the
29 Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, or his designee, who
30 shall serve as an ex officio member; and 15 public members to be
31 appointed by the Governor as follows: one member each from the
32 New Jersey Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and
33 Dance; the New Jersey Recreation and Parks Association; the Medical
34 Society of New Jersey; the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic
35 Association; and such other persons or professionals as are interested
36 in the physical fitness of the citizens of the State. The council shall
37 meet and organize immediately after appointment of the members and
38 shall elect from its membership a chairperson and vice chairperson.

39 b. Each public member of the council shall serve for a term of
40 three years, expiring on January 1 in the appropriate year; except that
41 of the members first appointed, four shall be appointed for a term of
42 one year, five shall be appointed for a term of two years and six shall
43 be appointed for a term of three years, as determined by the Governor.

1 Each member shall hold office for the term of appointment and until
2 a successor is appointed and qualified. A public member of the council
3 shall be eligible for reappointment. Members appointed to fill a
4 vacancy occurring for any reason other than the expiration of the term
5 shall serve for the unexpired term only.

6 c. Public members shall serve without compensation, but shall be
7 reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their
8 duties.

9 d. The council shall adopt rules for the transaction of its business
10 and shall keep a record of its business, including a record of its
11 resolutions, transactions, findings and determinations. A majority of
12 the members of the council shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser
13 number may hold a hearing.

14 e. The council shall meet at least once in each quarter of the fiscal
15 year, and as often thereafter as shall be deemed necessary by the
16 chairperson.

17 f. By a two-thirds vote of the council, a member may be
18 dismissed from membership for such reasons as the council may
19 establish, which reasons shall include lack of interest in council duties
20 or repeated absences from council meetings.

21 g. The council shall be administrated by the Department of Health
22 and Senior Services. The department shall employ necessary staff to
23 carry out the duties and functions of the council as otherwise provided
24 in this act or as otherwise provided by law.

25

26 4. The council shall have the powers and duties to:

27 a. Enlist the active support and assistance of individual citizens,
28 civic groups, private enterprise, voluntary organizations and others in
29 an effort to promote and improve the fitness of all the citizens of the
30 State through regular participation in physical fitness and sports
31 activities.

32 b. Initiate programs to inform the general public of the importance
33 of exercise and the link that exists between regular physical activity
34 and such qualities as good health, wellness and effective performance.

35 c. Develop, foster, and coordinate services and programs of
36 physical fitness and sports for the people of the State.

37 d. Develop programs to promote personal health, wellness and
38 physical fitness in cooperation with medical, dental and other similar
39 professional societies.

40 e. Assist the Department of Education in helping schools to develop
41 health, physical fitness and wellness programs for students.

42 f. Sponsor physical fitness and sports workshops, clinics,
43 conferences and other similar activities.

44 g. Give recognition to outstanding developments and achievements
45 in, and contributions to, physical fitness and sports.

46 h. Assist recreation agencies and State sports governing bodies at

1 all levels in developing "sports for all" programs which emphasize the
2 value of sports to physical, mental and emotional fitness.

3 i. Collect and disseminate physical fitness and sports information.

4 j. Encourage State agencies, local governments and communities
5 to develop local physical fitness programs, wellness programs and
6 amateur athletic competitions.

7 (k) Assist business, industry, government and labor organizations
8 in establishing sound physical fitness programs to elevate employee
9 fitness and in reducing the financial and human costs resulting from
10 physical inactivity.

11 (l) Stimulate and encourage research in the areas of sports
12 medicine, physical fitness and sports performance.

13

14 5. The council is authorized and empowered to accept from the
15 State government, or any instrumentality thereof, or from any person,
16 firm, or corporation in the name of and for the State, services,
17 equipment, supplies, materials or funds by way of gift or grant for the
18 purpose of physical fitness.

19

20 6. The council shall submit an annual report to the Governor and
21 the Legislature, including therein suggestions and recommendations
22 for protecting and improving the physical fitness of the State.

23

24 7. This act shall take effect immediately.

25

26

27

STATEMENT

28

29 This bill establishes a 16-member New Jersey Council on Physical
30 Fitness and Sports in the Department of Health and Senior Services.

31 The purpose of the council is to serve the citizens of the State by
32 developing safe, healthful and enjoyable physical fitness and sports
33 programs. The council shall provide instruments of motivation and
34 education, and shall promote public awareness to ensure that all
35 citizens of the State have the opportunity to pursue a more healthful
36 lifestyle.

37 In addition to the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, the
38 council shall consist of 15 public members appointed by the Governor
39 who shall include one representative from each of the following
40 organizations: the New Jersey Association of Health, Physical
41 Education, Recreation and Dance, the New Jersey Recreation and
42 Parks Association, the Medical Society of New Jersey, and the New
43 Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association.

44

45

46

47

48 Establishes New Jersey Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

ASSEMBLY, No. 2953

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 11, 1999

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman SAMUEL D. THOMPSON
District 13 (Middlesex and Monmouth)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Corodemus, Assemblywoman Buono, Senators Sinagra and Bucco

SYNOPSIS

Establishes New Jersey Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/1/1999)

1 AN ACT establishing a New Jersey Council on Physical Fitness and
2 Sports and supplementing Title 26 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. As used in this act:

8 "Council" means the New Jersey Council on Physical Fitness and
9 Sports.

10 "Physical Fitness" means good or improved life-style habits of a
11 State resident through the utilization of recreational opportunities,
12 consistent and medically correct exercise and leisure time management
13 for the express purpose of decreasing stress-related maladies, thereby
14 promoting a more healthful environment for the citizens of the State.

15 "Sports" means those team or individual competitive athletic
16 activities that are participated in on an amateur, nonprofit basis by the
17 citizens of the State for the express purposes of enjoyment, exercise
18 and sportsmanship.

19
20 2. There is established in the Department of Health and Senior
21 Services a New Jersey Council on Physical Fitness and Sports which
22 shall serve the citizens of the State by developing safe, healthful and
23 enjoyable physical fitness and sports programs. The council shall
24 provide instruments of motivation and education, and shall promote
25 public awareness to ensure that all citizens of the State have the
26 opportunity to pursue a more healthful lifestyle.

27
28 3. a. The council shall consist of 16 members, including: the
29 Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, or his designee, who
30 shall serve as an ex officio member; and 15 public members to be
31 appointed by the Governor as follows: one member each from the
32 New Jersey Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and
33 Dance; the New Jersey Recreation and Parks Association; the Medical
34 Society of New Jersey; the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic
35 Association; and such other persons or professionals as are interested
36 in the physical fitness of the citizens of the State. The council shall
37 meet and organize immediately after appointment of the members and
38 shall elect from its membership a chairperson and vice chairperson.

39 b. Each public member of the council shall serve for a term of
40 three years, expiring on January 1 in the appropriate year; except that
41 of the members first appointed, four shall be appointed for a term of
42 one year, five shall be appointed for a term of two years and six shall
43 be appointed for a term of three years, as determined by the Governor.
44 Each member shall hold office for the term of appointment and until
45 a successor is appointed and qualified. A public member of the council
46 shall be eligible for reappointment. Members appointed to fill a

1 vacancy occurring for any reason other than the expiration of the term
2 shall serve for the unexpired term only.

3 c. Public members shall serve without compensation, but shall be
4 reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their
5 duties.

6 d. The council shall adopt rules for the transaction of its business
7 and shall keep a record of its business, including a record of its
8 resolutions, transactions, findings and determinations. A majority of
9 the members of the council shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser
10 number may hold a hearing.

11 e. The council shall meet at least once in each quarter of the fiscal
12 year, and as often thereafter as shall be deemed necessary by the
13 chairperson.

14 f. By a two-thirds vote of the council, a member may be
15 dismissed from membership for such reasons as the council may
16 establish, which reasons shall include lack of interest in council duties
17 or repeated absences from council meetings.

18 g. The council shall be administrated by the Department of Health
19 and Senior Services. The department shall employ necessary staff to
20 carry out the duties and functions of the council as otherwise provided
21 in this act or as otherwise provided by law.

22

23 4. The council shall have the powers and duties to:

24 a. Enlist the active support and assistance of individual citizens,
25 civic groups, private enterprise, voluntary organizations and others in
26 an effort to promote and improve the fitness of all the citizens of the
27 State through regular participation in physical fitness and sports
28 activities.

29 b. Initiate programs to inform the general public of the importance
30 of exercise and the link that exists between regular physical activity
31 and such qualities as good health, wellness and effective performance.

32 c. Develop, foster, and coordinate services and programs of
33 physical fitness and sports for the people of the State.

34 d. Develop programs to promote personal health, wellness and
35 physical fitness in cooperation with medical, dental and other similar
36 professional societies.

37 e. Assist the Department of Education in helping schools to develop
38 health, physical fitness and wellness programs for students.

39 f. Sponsor physical fitness and sports workshops, clinics,
40 conferences and other similar activities.

41 g. Give recognition to outstanding developments and achievements
42 in, and contributions to, physical fitness and sports.

43 h. Assist recreation agencies and State sports governing bodies at
44 all levels in developing "sports for all" programs which emphasize the
45 value of sports to physical, mental and emotional fitness.

46 i. Collect and disseminate physical fitness and sports information.

1 j. Encourage State agencies, local governments and communities
2 to develop local physical fitness programs, wellness programs and
3 amateur athletic competitions.

4 (k) Assist business, industry, government and labor organizations
5 in establishing sound physical fitness programs to elevate employee
6 fitness and in reducing the financial and human costs resulting from
7 physical inactivity.

8 (l) Stimulate and encourage research in the areas of sports
9 medicine, physical fitness and sports performance.

10
11 5. The council is authorized and empowered to accept from the
12 State government, or any instrumentality thereof, or from any person,
13 firm, or corporation in the name of and for the State, services,
14 equipment, supplies, materials or funds by way of gift or grant for the
15 purpose of physical fitness.

16
17 6. The council shall submit an annual report to the Governor and
18 the Legislature, including therein suggestions and recommendations
19 for protecting and improving the physical fitness of the State.

20
21 7. This act shall take effect immediately.

22
23
24 STATEMENT

25
26 This bill establishes a 16-member New Jersey Council on Physical
27 Fitness and Sports in the Department of Health and Senior Services.

28 The purpose of the council is to serve the citizens of the State by
29 developing safe, healthful and enjoyable physical fitness and sports
30 programs. The council shall provide instruments of motivation and
31 education, and shall promote public awareness to ensure that all
32 citizens of the State have the opportunity to pursue a more healthful
33 lifestyle.

34 In addition to the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, the
35 council shall consist of 15 public members appointed by the Governor
36 who shall include one representative from each of the following
37 organizations: the New Jersey Association of Health, Physical
38 Education, Recreation and Dance, the New Jersey Recreation and
39 Parks Association, the Medical Society of New Jersey, and the New
40 Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association.

ASSEMBLY HEALTH COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 2953

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 7, 1999

The Assembly Health Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 2953.

This bill establishes a 16-member New Jersey Council on Physical Fitness and Sports in the Department of Health and Senior Services.

The purpose of the council is to serve the citizens of the State by developing safe, healthful and enjoyable physical fitness and sports programs. The council would provide instruments of motivation and education and promote public awareness to ensure that all citizens of the State have the opportunity to pursue a more healthful lifestyle.

In addition to the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, the council would consist of 15 public members appointed by the Governor, including one representative from each of the following organizations: the New Jersey Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, the New Jersey Recreation and Parks Association, the Medical Society of New Jersey, and the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association.

Specifically, the council would be responsible for:

- enlisting the active support and assistance of individual citizens, civic groups, private enterprise, voluntary organizations and others in an effort to promote and improve the fitness of all the citizens of the State through regular participation in physical fitness and sports activities;
- initiating programs to inform the general public of the importance of exercise and the link that exists between regular physical activity and such qualities as good health, wellness and effective performance;
- developing, fostering, and coordinating physical fitness and sports services and programs;
- developing programs to promote personal health, wellness and physical fitness in cooperation with medical, dental and other similar professional societies;
- assisting the Department of Education to help schools to develop health, physical fitness and wellness programs for students;
- sponsoring physical fitness and sports workshops, clinics, conferences and other similar activities;
- giving recognition to outstanding developments and achievements in, and contributions to, physical fitness and sports;

- assisting recreation agencies and State sports governing bodies at all levels to develop "sports for all" programs which emphasize the value of sports to physical, mental and emotional fitness;
- collecting and disseminating physical fitness and sports information;
- encouraging State agencies, local governments and communities to develop local physical fitness programs, wellness programs and amateur athletic competitions;
- assisting business, industry, government and labor organizations to establish sound physical fitness programs to elevate employee fitness and to reduce the financial and human costs resulting from physical inactivity; and
- stimulating and encouraging research in the areas of sports medicine, physical fitness and sports performance.

This bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 1866 (Sinagra), which is currently pending in the Senate Health Committee.

SENATE, No. 1866

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 10, 1999

Sponsored by:

Senator JACK SINAGRA

District 18 (Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Bucco

SYNOPSIS

Establishes New Jersey Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/1/1999)

S1866 SINAGRA

2

1 **AN ACT** establishing a New Jersey Council on Physical Fitness and
2 Sports and supplementing Title 26 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. As used in this act:

8 "Council" means the New Jersey Council on Physical Fitness and
9 Sports.

10 "Physical Fitness" means good or improved life-style habits of a
11 State resident through the utilization of recreational opportunities,
12 consistent and medically correct exercise and leisure time management
13 for the express purpose of decreasing stress-related maladies, thereby
14 promoting a more healthful environment for the citizens of the State.

15 "Sports" means those team or individual competitive athletic
16 activities that are participated in on an amateur, nonprofit basis by the
17 citizens of the State for the express purposes of enjoyment, exercise
18 and sportsmanship.

19

20 2. There is established in the Department of Health and Senior
21 Services a New Jersey Council on Physical Fitness and Sports which
22 shall serve the citizens of the State by developing safe, healthful and
23 enjoyable physical fitness and sports programs. The council shall
24 provide instruments of motivation and education, and shall promote
25 public awareness to ensure that all citizens of the State have the
26 opportunity to pursue a more healthful lifestyle.

27

28 3. a. The council shall consist of 16 members, including: the
29 Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, or his designee, who
30 shall serve as an ex officio member; and 15 public members to be
31 appointed by the Governor as follows: one member each from the
32 New Jersey Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and
33 Dance; the New Jersey Recreation and Parks Association; the Medical
34 Society of New Jersey; the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic
35 Association; and such other persons or professionals as are interested
36 in the physical fitness of the citizens of the State. The council shall
37 meet and organize immediately after appointment of the members and
38 shall elect from its membership a chairperson and vice chairperson.

39 b. Each public member of the council shall serve for a term of
40 three years, expiring on January 1 in the appropriate year; except that
41 of the members first appointed, four shall be appointed for a term of
42 one year, five shall be appointed for a term of two years and six shall
43 be appointed for a term of three years, as determined by the Governor.
44 Each member shall hold office for the term of appointment and until
45 a successor is appointed and qualified. A public member of the council
46 shall be eligible for reappointment. Members appointed to fill a

1 vacancy occurring for any reason other than the expiration of the term
2 shall serve for the unexpired term only.

3 c. Public members shall serve without compensation, but shall be
4 reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their
5 duties.

6 d. The council shall adopt rules for the transaction of its business
7 and shall keep a record of its business, including a record of its
8 resolutions, transactions, findings and determinations. A majority of
9 the members of the council shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser
10 number may hold a hearing.

11 e. The council shall meet at least once in each quarter of the fiscal
12 year, and as often thereafter as shall be deemed necessary by the
13 chairperson.

14 f. By a two-thirds vote of the council, a member may be
15 dismissed from membership for such reasons as the council may
16 establish, which reasons shall include lack of interest in council duties
17 or repeated absences from council meetings.

18 g. The council shall be administrated by the Department of Health
19 and Senior Services. The department shall employ necessary staff to
20 carry out the duties and functions of the council as otherwise provided
21 in this act or as otherwise provided by law.

22

23 4. The council shall have the powers and duties to:

24 a. Enlist the active support and assistance of individual citizens,
25 civic groups, private enterprise, voluntary organizations and others in
26 an effort to promote and improve the fitness of all the citizens of the
27 State through regular participation in physical fitness and sports
28 activities.

29 b. Initiate programs to inform the general public of the importance
30 of exercise and the link that exists between regular physical activity
31 and such qualities as good health, wellness and effective performance.

32 c. Develop, foster, and coordinate services and programs of
33 physical fitness and sports for the people of the State.

34 d. Develop programs to promote personal health, wellness and
35 physical fitness in cooperation with medical, dental and other similar
36 professional societies.

37 e. Assist the Department of Education in helping schools to develop
38 health, physical fitness and wellness programs for students.

39 f. Sponsor physical fitness and sports workshops, clinics,
40 conferences and other similar activities.

41 g. Give recognition to outstanding developments and achievements
42 in, and contributions to, physical fitness and sports.

43 h. Assist recreation agencies and State sports governing bodies at
44 all levels in developing "sports for all" programs which emphasize the
45 value of sports to physical, mental and emotional fitness.

46 i. Collect and disseminate physical fitness and sports information.

1 j. Encourage State agencies, local governments and communities
2 to develop local physical fitness programs, wellness programs and
3 amateur athletic competitions.

4 k. Assist business, industry, government and labor organizations
5 in establishing sound physical fitness programs to elevate employee
6 fitness and in reducing the financial and human costs resulting from
7 physical inactivity.

8 l. Stimulate and encourage research in the areas of sports
9 medicine, physical fitness and sports performance.

10
11 5. The council is authorized and empowered to accept from the
12 State government, or any instrumentality thereof, or from any person,
13 firm, or corporation in the name of and for the State, services,
14 equipment, supplies, materials or funds by way of gift or grant for the
15 purpose of physical fitness.

16
17 6. The council shall submit an annual report to the Governor and
18 the Legislature, including therein suggestions and recommendations
19 for protecting and improving the physical fitness of the State.

20
21 7. This act shall take effect immediately.

22
23
24 STATEMENT

25
26 This bill establishes a 16-member New Jersey Council on Physical
27 Fitness and Sports in the Department of Health and Senior Services.

28 The purpose of the council is to serve the citizens of the State by
29 developing safe, healthful and enjoyable physical fitness and sports
30 programs. The council shall provide instruments of motivation and
31 education, and shall promote public awareness to ensure that all
32 citizens of the State have the opportunity to pursue a more healthful
33 lifestyle.

34 In addition to the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, the
35 council shall consist of 15 public members appointed by the Governor
36 who shall include one representative from each of the following
37 organizations: the New Jersey Association of Health, Physical
38 Education, Recreation and Dance, the New Jersey Recreation and
39 Parks Association, the Medical Society of New Jersey, and the New
40 Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association.

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1866

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 14, 1999

The Senate Health Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1866.

This bill establishes a 16-member New Jersey Council on Physical Fitness and Sports in the Department of Health and Senior Services.

The purpose of the council is to serve the citizens of the State by developing safe, healthful and enjoyable physical fitness and sports programs. The council shall provide instruments of motivation and education, and shall promote public awareness to ensure that all citizens of the State have the opportunity to pursue a more healthful lifestyle.

In addition to the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, the council shall consist of 15 public members appointed by the Governor who shall include one representative from each of the following organizations: the New Jersey Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, the New Jersey Recreation and Parks Association, the Medical Society of New Jersey and the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association. The remaining members of the council shall be persons or professionals interested in the physical fitness of the citizens of the State.

The bill provides that the council shall have the power and duty to do the following:

- enlist the active support and assistance of individual citizens, civic groups, private enterprise, voluntary organizations and others in an effort to promote and improve the fitness of all the citizens of the State through regular participation in physical fitness and sports activities;
- initiate programs to inform the general public of the importance of exercise and the link that exists between regular physical activity and such qualities as good health, wellness and effective performance;
- develop, foster, and coordinate services and programs of physical fitness and sports for the people of the State;
- develop programs to promote personal health, wellness and physical fitness in cooperation with medical, dental and other similar professional societies;
- assist the Department of Education in helping schools to develop health, physical fitness and wellness programs for students;

- sponsor physical fitness and sports workshops, clinics, conferences and other similar activities;
- give recognition to outstanding developments and achievements in, and contributions to, physical fitness and sports;
- assist recreation agencies and State sports governing bodies at all levels in developing "sports for all" programs which emphasize the value of sports to physical, mental and emotional fitness;
- collect and disseminate physical fitness and sports information;
- encourage State agencies, local governments and communities to develop local physical fitness programs, wellness programs and amateur athletic competitions;
- assist business, industry, government and labor organizations in establishing sound physical fitness programs to elevate employee fitness and in reducing the financial and human costs resulting from physical inactivity; and
- stimulate and encourage research in the areas of sports medicine, physical fitness and sports performance.

The bill directs the council to meet at least once in each quarter of the fiscal year and to submit an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature with the council's suggestions and recommendations for protecting and improving the physical fitness of the citizens of the State.

This bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 2953 (Thompson), which is currently pending before the General Assembly.