

**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST**  
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(Stabilization &amp; Reintegration---juveniles)

NJSA: 52:17B-181

LAWS OF: 1995 CHAPTER: 330

BILL NO: S1573

SPONSOR(S): Kosco and others

DATE INTRODUCED: November 10, 1994

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY Judiciary: Appropriations  
SENATE: Law & Public Safety; Budget

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes Amendments during passage  
Third reprint enacted denoted by superscript numbers

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: December 11, 1995  
SENATE: January 19, 1995

DATE OF APPROVAL: January 5, 1996

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

SPONSOR STATEMENT: Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: Yes 3-23-95 &amp; 11-27-95

SENATE: Yes 12-1-94 &amp; 1-12-95

FISCAL NOTE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

MESSAGE ON SIGNING: Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

REPORTS: Yes

HEARINGS: No

974.90 New Jersey. Governor's Advisory Council on Juvenile Justice.  
J97 Final report...December 30, 1994. Trenton, 1994.  
1994a [see pp.63-66]

974.90 New Jersey. Legislature. Assembly. Task Force on Juvenile  
J97 Crime.  
1994 Meeting on "education and rehabilitation of juvenile  
offenders," held 4-12-94, Paterson, NJ.  
[see especially pp. 40-42]

See newspaper clippings attached

KBP:pp

[THIRD REPRINT]

SENATE, No. 1573

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 10, 1994

By Senators KOSCO, LITTELL, Lynch, Rice,  
Sacco, Girgenti and McGreevey

1 AN ACT to establish a correctional and rehabilitative program for certain  
2 juvenile and youthful offenders, amending <sup>3</sup>[P.L.1994, c.67] P.L.1995, c.164<sup>3</sup>  
3 and supplementing Title 30 of the Revised Statutes.

4

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

7 1. (New section) This act shall be known and may be cited as the  
8 "Stabilization and Reintegration Act."

9 2. (New section) The Legislature finds and declares that there is a present  
10 need to provide for certain juvenile and young adult offenders a special  
11 program of incarceration stressing a highly structured routine of discipline,  
12 <sup>3</sup>[intensive]<sup>3</sup> regimentation, exercise and work therapy, together with  
13 substance abuse <sup>3</sup>[.] and<sup>3</sup> self-improvement <sup>3</sup>[and education]<sup>3</sup> counseling,  
14 <sup>3</sup>education<sup>3</sup> and an intensive program of aftercare supervision.

15 The Legislature further finds and declares that such a program would:

16 a. Develop positive attitude and behavior traits which will foster the work  
17 ethic and contribute to the maturity of the participants by utilizing proven  
18 <sup>3</sup>[military]<sup>3</sup> techniques of regimentation and structured discipline;

19 b. Foster self-control, self-respect, teamwork and improved work habits for  
20 such offenders so as to enable these offenders to return to society as  
21 law-abiding citizens;

22 c. Provide young <sup>3</sup>adult and juvenile<sup>3</sup> offenders with a rehabilitative  
23 experience which will positively influence their behavior and help thwart future  
24 criminal activity;

25 d. Allow for a more creative use of correctional resources than the simple  
26 custody of prisoners;

27 e. <sup>3</sup>[Minimize the negative effect of traditional institutionalization on these  
28 offenders by segregating them from the general prison population where they  
29 may be subject to abuse, exploitation, and corruption;

30 f.]<sup>3</sup> Reduce corrections costs by shortening stays of incarceration;

31 <sup>3</sup>[g.] f.<sup>3</sup> Increase an offender's potential for rehabilitation and decrease  
32 recidivism by providing a structured, integrated and comprehensive treatment  
33 program which includes both an institutional regimen and an intensively  
34 supervised aftercare component in the community;

35 <sup>3</sup>[h.] g.<sup>3</sup> Provide meaningful and productive work opportunities and  
36 vocational training to enhance and expand offenders' marketable skills; and

37 <sup>3</sup>[i.] h.<sup>3</sup> Help to alleviate overcrowding in prisons juvenile facilities <sup>3</sup>[by  
38 incarcerating youthful offenders and juveniles in a facility other than a State  
39 or county correctional institution or juvenile institution]<sup>3</sup>.

40 3. (New section) As used in this act:

41 a. <sup>3</sup>"Commission" means the Juvenile Justice Commission in, but not of, the  
42 Department of Law and Public Safety established pursuant to P.L. 1995, c.

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 SLP committee amendments adopted December 1, 1994.

<sup>2</sup> Senate SBA committee amendments adopted January 12, 1995.

<sup>3</sup> Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted November 30, 1995.

1 (C. ) (now pending before the Legislature as Assembly Bill No. 2988 of 1995  
 2 or Senate Bill No. 2211 of 1995).

3 b.<sup>3</sup> "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Department of  
 4 Corrections

5 <sup>3</sup>[b.] c.<sup>3</sup> "Juvenile offender" means a person at least 14 years old <sup>3</sup>[and under  
 6 the age of 18] at the time of disposition<sup>3</sup> who has been adjudicated delinquent  
 7 for an act which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime <sup>3</sup>[of the  
 8 third or fourth degree]<sup>3</sup>, excluding an adjudication for any act which would  
 9 constitute <sup>3</sup>a crime of the first degree or<sup>3</sup> a crime under chapter 14 of Title  
 10 2C of the New Jersey Statutes.

11 <sup>3</sup>[c.] d.<sup>3</sup> "Youthful offender" means a person between 18 and 26 years of age  
 12 who has been convicted of a crime of the third or fourth degree or convicted of  
 13 a crime of the second degree but sentenced pursuant to paragraph (2) of  
 14 subsection f. of N.J.S.2C:44-1 to a term appropriate to a crime of the third  
 15 degree, excluding any person convicted of a crime under chapter 14 of Title 2C  
 16 of the New Jersey Statutes or convicted of any crime which requires the  
 17 imposition of a mandatory term of imprisonment without eligibility for parole.

18 4. (New section) <sup>2</sup>a.<sup>2</sup> <sup>3</sup>[The] If funds are expressly appropriated for such  
 19 purpose, and to the extent of such appropriation, the<sup>3</sup> commissioner <sup>2</sup>[is hereby  
 20 authorized to enter into a contract with a private corporation to implement the  
 21 provisions of this act and] shall<sup>2</sup> establish and operate <sup>3</sup>[two pilot programs] a  
 22 program<sup>3</sup>, entitled "Stabilization and Reintegration <sup>3</sup>[Programs] Program<sup>3</sup>"  
 23 and to be known by the acronym of "SRP," for <sup>3</sup>[juvenile and]<sup>3</sup> youthful  
 24 offenders <sup>3</sup>[sentenced to those programs pursuant to this act]<sup>3</sup>.

25 <sup>2</sup>b. <sup>3</sup>The commission shall establish and operate a program, entitled  
 26 "Stabilization and Reintegration Program" and to be known by the acronym of  
 27 "SRP," for juvenile offenders.

28 c.<sup>3</sup> The commissioner <sup>3</sup>and the commission<sup>3</sup> may enter into a contract with  
 29 a private corporation to establish and operate the <sup>3</sup>[two pilot]<sup>3</sup> programs set  
 30 forth in this act if the commissioner <sup>3</sup>[determines] and the commission  
 31 determine<sup>3</sup> that this option is in the best interests of the citizens of this  
 32 State. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the private  
 33 corporation selected as the contractor for the purpose of implementing this act  
 34 may be a for-profit corporation.<sup>2</sup>

35 5. (New section) <sup>3</sup>[Any] The<sup>3</sup> SRP <sup>3</sup>[program]<sup>3</sup> <sup>2</sup>[contracted for pursuant to  
 36 this act]<sup>2</sup> shall include the following components:

37 a. Stage I: A comprehensive, <sup>3</sup>[six-month]<sup>3</sup> residential program consisting of  
 38 <sup>3</sup>appropriate<sup>3</sup>:

- 39 (1) Highly structured routines of discipline;
- 40 (2) Physical exercise;
- 41 (3) Work;
- 42 (4) Substance abuse counseling;
- 43 (5) <sup>3</sup>[Educational] Education<sup>3</sup> and vocational <sup>3</sup>[counseling] training<sup>3</sup>;
- 44 (6) Psychological counseling; and
- 45 (7) Self-improvement and personal growth counseling stressing moral values
- 46 and cognitive reasoning.

47 b. Stage II: <sup>3</sup>[A six-month, intensively supervised after-care residential  
 48 program which includes work opportunities and vocational training. <sup>2</sup>The  
 49 residences to be used in this stage of the program shall be located only in  
 50 municipalities in which the municipal governing bodies have given prior written  
 51 approval for the establishment of such residences within the municipality.<sup>2</sup>

52 c. Stage III: A one-year] An intensive<sup>3</sup> after-care <sup>3</sup>[mentoring]<sup>3</sup> program  
 53 <sup>3</sup>which includes work opportunities and vocational training. Offenders shall  
 54 remain on parole during this period and shall be subject to reincarceration for  
 55 parole violations<sup>3</sup>.

1       <sup>3</sup>[6. (New section) Notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary  
2 concerning primary parole eligibility dates and parole release dates of adult  
3 and juvenile inmates, a person who successfully completes the two-year SRP  
4 program shall be released from incarceration and shall not be required to serve  
5 parole.]<sup>3</sup>

6       <sup>3</sup>[7. (New section) In imposing a term of incarceration on a youthful  
7 offender, if information obtained during court proceedings or information  
8 contained in the presentence investigation and report prepared for the court  
9 prior to sentencing leads the court to conclude that the offender may be  
10 eligible for participation in the SRP program established pursuant to this act,  
11 the court shall note that conclusion and the reasons for it in writing and shall  
12 include it as part of the inmate's record to be forwarded to the Department of  
13 Corrections.]<sup>3</sup>

14       <sup>3</sup>[8. (New section) In imposing a term of incarceration on a juvenile  
15 offender, if information obtained during court proceedings or information  
16 contained in the presentence investigation and report prepared for the court  
17 prior to sentencing leads the court to conclude that the offender may be  
18 eligible for participation in the SRP program established pursuant to this act,  
19 the court shall note that conclusion and the reasons for it in writing and shall  
20 include it as part of the juvenile's record to be forwarded to the Department  
21 of Corrections]<sup>3</sup>.

22       <sup>3</sup>[9.] 6.<sup>3</sup> (New section) a. Any juvenile offender or youthful offender who is  
23 serving a term of incarceration <sup>3</sup>[at a facility operated by the Department of  
24 Corrections,]<sup>3</sup> may <sup>3</sup>[request admission to the program; or]<sup>3</sup> be assigned <sup>3</sup>to  
25 the program<sup>3</sup> by the <sup>3</sup>[Department of Corrections] commissioner or  
26 commission<sup>3</sup> based upon passing the screening and assessment procedures for  
27 admission.

28       b. If an offender fails to comply with the requirements of the SRP  
29 <sup>3</sup>[program]<sup>3</sup>, the offender <sup>3</sup>[shall be returned to the custody of the Department  
30 of Corrections] may be removed from the program<sup>3</sup> to serve the remainder of  
31 the sentence originally imposed and shall be eligible for parole pursuant to the  
32 provisions of P.L.1979, c.411, (C.30:4-123.51). The offender shall not  
33 subsequently be eligible for re-admission <sup>3</sup>[, at any time,]<sup>3</sup> to <sup>3</sup>[any] the<sup>3</sup>  
34 program <sup>3</sup>[established pursuant to this act]<sup>3</sup>.

35       <sup>3</sup>[10. (New section) a. There is hereby created a "Stabilization and  
36 Reintegration Program Advisory Board." The advisory board shall consist of  
37 seven members, and shall include one police officer, one county prosecutor or  
38 his designee, one parole officer, one representative of the judiciary, one  
39 victims' rights advocate, and two public members. The members shall be  
40 appointed as follows: two shall be appointed by the President of the Senate,  
41 two shall be appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly, and three shall  
42 be appointed by the Governor. The advisory board shall elect a chairman from  
43 among its members.

44       Vacancies in the membership of the advisory board shall be filled in the same  
45 manner as the original appointments were made. The members of the advisory  
46 board shall serve without compensation, but they shall be eligible for  
47 reimbursement for necessary and reasonable expenses incurred in the  
48 performance of their official duties within the limits of funds appropriated for  
49 this purpose.

50       It shall be the duty of the advisory board to monitor the operations of the  
51 SRP program, to act as liaison between the Department of Corrections and the  
52 program's director and staff, and to make any recommendations to the  
53 department or to the director of the program as the Board feels are necessary  
54 to carry out the intent and purpose of this act.

b. For the purpose of complying with the provisions of Article V, Section IV, paragraph 1 of the New Jersey Constitution, the advisory board is allocated within the Department of Corrections, but, notwithstanding that allocation, the board shall be independent of any supervision or control by the Department of Corrections or any officer or employee thereof.]<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup>[11.] 7.<sup>3</sup> (New section) No later than 24 months following the <sup>3</sup>[effective date of this act] implementation of an SRP<sup>3</sup>, the commissioner <sup>3</sup>and the commission<sup>3</sup> shall submit <sup>3</sup>[a]<sup>3</sup> written <sup>3</sup>[report] reports<sup>3</sup> to the Legislature and the Governor describing the implementation and operation of the juvenile and youthful offender SRP <sup>3</sup>[pilot programs]<sup>3</sup> and assessing their performance. The <sup>3</sup>[report] reports<sup>3</sup> shall include any recommendations for changes to the SRP <sup>3</sup>[programs or facilities, for establishing permanent programs, and for the enactment of any legislation]<sup>3</sup> deemed necessary for the more effective operation of the programs <sup>3</sup>[or facilities]<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>3</sup>[12.] 8.<sup>3</sup> (New section) The commissioner <sup>3</sup>and the commission<sup>3</sup> shall <sup>3</sup>[promulgate rules and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to effectuate the purposes of this act. The rules and regulations shall include, but shall not be limited to, those regarding the establishment of the SRP program" pursuant to P.L. , c. (C. )](now pending before the Legislature as this bill),] establish<sup>3</sup> procedures <sup>3</sup>[for inmates to request voluntary admission into the SRP program and to be screened and assessed for admittance into the program and a procedure]<sup>3</sup> to monitor the effectiveness of the <sup>3</sup>[program] programs<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>3</sup>9. (New Section) Nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit a county from establishing a boot camp program.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup>[13.] 10.<sup>3</sup> The following <sup>3</sup>[item and]<sup>3</sup> language provision in section 1 of <sup>3</sup>[P.L.1994, c.67] P.L.1995, c.164<sup>3</sup>, the annual appropriations act for fiscal year <sup>3</sup>[1995] 1996<sup>3</sup>, (on page <sup>3</sup>[27] 28<sup>3</sup>), is amended to read as follows:

**GENERAL FUND**  
**DIRECT STATE SERVICES**  
**26 DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**10 Public Safety and Criminal Justice**  
**7025 System-wide Program Support**

<sup>3</sup>[13-7025 Institutional Program Support ..... \$3,000,000

Special Purpose:

Establishment of Juvenile and Youthful Offender

"Boot [Camp] Camps" ..... (\$3,000,000)

The sum provided hereinabove shall be used to fund the program established pursuant to P.L. , c. (C. )](now pending before the Legislature as sections 1 through 12 of this bill).

(cf: P.L.1994, c.67, s.1)]<sup>3</sup> The amount appropriated hereinabove for the Establishment of "Boot Camp" shall be used by the <sup>3</sup>[department] commission<sup>3</sup> to establish <sup>3</sup>[two boot camp programs, one] a Stabilization and Reintegration Program<sup>3</sup> for juvenile offenders adjudicated delinquent who are <sup>3</sup>[15] at least 14<sup>3</sup> years of age <sup>3</sup>[or older but under 18 years of age, and one for convicted youthful offenders 18 years of age or older but under 26 years of age]<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>3</sup>[14.] 11.<sup>3</sup> (New section) Nothing in this act shall be construed to exempt any person who is admitted to the SRP program from the payment of any fine, penalty, restitution or other financial obligation imposed by law or the court as a result of any adjudication or conviction.<sup>1</sup>

1 <sup>3</sup>[<sup>1</sup>15.] <sup>3</sup>12.<sup>3</sup> (New section) Nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit a  
2 county from establishing a boot camp program.<sup>1</sup>

3 <sup>1</sup>[14.] <sup>3</sup>[16.]<sup>1</sup> <sup>3</sup>13.<sup>3</sup> This act shall take effect 180 days following enactment  
4 except that section <sup>3</sup>[12] <sup>3</sup>§<sup>3</sup> shall take effect immediately. <sup>3</sup>However, this act  
5 shall remain inoperative until the enactment of Assembly Bill No. 2988 of 1995  
6 or Senate Bill No. 2211 of 1995.<sup>3</sup>

7  
8  
9  
10  
11 Proposes "Stabilization and Reintegration Act" for juvenile offenders.

**GENERAL FUND**  
**DIRECT STATE SERVICES**  
**26 DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
*10 Public Safety and Criminal Justice*  
*7025 System-wide Program Support*

13-7025 Institutional Program Support ..... \$3,000,000

Special Purpose:

Establishment of Juvenile and Youthful Offender

"Boot [Camp] Camps" ..... (\$3,000,000)

The sum provided hereinabove shall be used to fund the program established pursuant to P.L. , c. (C. )(now pending before the Legislature as sections 1 through 12 of this bill).

(cf: P.L. 1994, c.67, s.1)

14. This act shall take effect 180 days following enactment except that section 12 shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill, the "Stabilization and Reintegration Act," would establish two pilot programs for certain youthful and juvenile offenders. In order to be eligible for participation in the program for youthful offenders, a person would have to be between the ages of 18 and 26 and convicted of a crime of the third or fourth degree. Persons convicted of crimes involving sexual assault or crimes requiring a mandatory term of imprisonment would not be eligible for participation in this program. In order to be eligible for the juvenile offender program, the juvenile would have to be between the ages of 14 and 18 and adjudicated delinquent for an act which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime of the third or fourth degree, excluding sexual assault.

The bill provides that the Department of Corrections would enter into a contract with a private corporation to establish and operate the two programs. The programs envisioned by the bill would include three stages. Stage I would be a comprehensive, six-month residential program consisting of highly structured routines of discipline, physical exercise, work, substance abuse counseling, educational and vocational counseling, psychological counseling and self-improvement counseling stressing moral values and cognitive reasoning.

The next stage of the program, Stage II, would be a six-month, intensively supervised residential aftercare program which would include work opportunities and vocational training.

Finally, Stage III would be a one-year community mentoring program.

Under the bill, a sentencing court which determines that a person being sentenced to a term of incarceration may be eligible for participation in the "Stabilization and Reintegration Program" would note the conclusion in writing and include it as part of the offender's record to be forwarded to the Department of Corrections. An inmate who successfully completes the full two-year program would be released.

The bill also creates a "Stabilization and Reintegration Advisory Board," which would monitor the operations of the program, act as liaison between the Department of Corrections and the program's director and staff, and make recommendations to the department or to the director.

1 This bill also amends the FY 1995 Appropriations Act to clarify that the  
2 \$3,000,000.00 appropriated to the Department of Corrections for the  
3 "Establishment of Youthful Offender Boot Camp" will be used to fund the SRP  
4 program.

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9 Proposes "Stabilization and Reintegration Act" for youthful and juvenile  
10 offenders.



ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY, LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[SECOND REPRINT]

SENATE No. 1573

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 23, 1995

The Assembly Judiciary, Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1573 (2R).

This bill creates two correctional and rehabilitative pilots programs for certain youthful and juvenile offenders. The programs would be established and operated by the Department of Corrections or the department may enter into a contract with a private corporation to operate the two programs. The bill would require the Department of Corrections to establish and operate the two pilot programs, but the department may enter into a contract with a private contractor to establish and operate the programs if this option is deemed to be in the best interest of the State; and permit a private contractor to be a for-profit corporation.

The programs will have three stages: Stage I would be a six-month residential phase consisting of a daily routine of discipline, physical exercise, work, substance abuse counseling, educational and vocational counseling, psychological counseling and self-improvement counseling. Stage II would be a supervised six-month residential aftercare phase that would include work opportunities and vocational training. Written approval of a municipal governing body for the establishment of residences needed for stage II of the program within the municipality would be required. Stage III would be a one-year community mentoring phase.

Youthful offenders between 18 and 26 years of age who have been convicted of a crime of the third or fourth degree would be eligible for one program. Juveniles between 14 and 18 years of age who have been adjudicated delinquent for a crime of the third or fourth degree would be eligible for the other program. Persons convicted of crimes involving sexual assault or crimes requiring a mandatory term of imprisonment would not be eligible for participation in the programs.

The bill also creates a "Stabilization and Reintegration Advisory Board" to monitor the operations of the program, act as liaison between the Department of Corrections and the program's director and staff, and make recommendations to the department or to the director.

A person admitted to either program must pay any fine, penalty, restitution or other financial obligation imposed by law or the court as a result of any adjudication or conviction.

This bill amends the FY 1995 Appropriations Act to clarify that the \$3 million appropriated to the Department of Corrections for the "Establishment of Youthful Offender Boot Camp" will be used to fund the pilot programs set forth in this bill.

This bill is identical to the Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly, Nos. 544/2318.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[SECOND REPRINT]

**SENATE, No. 1573**

with Assembly committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: NOVEMBER 27, 1995

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1573 2R, with committee amendments.

Senate Bill No. 1573 2R, as amended, creates a correctional and rehabilitative program for certain youthful and juvenile offenders. The program would be established and operated under the newly established Juvenile Justice Commission and the Department of Corrections or it may enter into a contract with a private corporation to operate the program.

The program, as amended, will have two components with two stages: Stage I would be a comprehensive residential phase consisting of a daily routine of discipline, physical exercise, work, substance abuse counseling, education and vocational training counseling, psychological counseling and self-improvement counseling. Stage II would be an intensive aftercare phase that would include work opportunities and vocational training. Offenders shall remain on parole during this period.

Juveniles at least 14 years of age who have been adjudicated delinquent for a crime of the second, third or fourth degree would be eligible for the program. Persons convicted of crimes involving sexual assault or crimes of the first degree would not be eligible for participation in the program.

Youthful offenders between 18 and 26 years of age convicted of certain crimes would be eligible for the program, under the Department of Corrections when funds are appropriated.

A person admitted to the program must pay any fine, penalty, restitution or other financial obligation imposed by law or the court as a result of any adjudication or conviction.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The 1996 fiscal year appropriations act allows for \$2,738,000 for this line item affecting the program for juveniles, as described by amendatory language in the bill.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to:

\* Require the Juvenile Justice Commission establish and operate one program for juveniles and when funds are appropriated, the Department of Corrections shall operate a program for youthful offenders.

\* Changes the three stages to a two stage program; 1) a residential component and 2) an intensive after-care component with work opportunities and vocational training, while on parole.

\* Technical changes were also made to the bill.

SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 1573**

with committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: DECEMBER 1, 1994

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee favorably reports with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 1573.

This bill, the "Stabilization and Reintegration Act," would establish two pilot programs for certain youthful and juvenile offenders. In order to be eligible for participation in the program for youthful offenders, a person would have to be between the ages of 18 and 26 and convicted of a crime of the third or fourth degree. Persons convicted of crimes involving sexual assault or crimes requiring a mandatory term of imprisonment would not be eligible for participation in this program. In order to be eligible for the juvenile offender program, the juvenile would have to be between the ages of 14 and 18 and adjudicated delinquent for an act which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime of the third or fourth degree, excluding sexual assault. The program would include both male and female offenders.

The bill provides that the Department of Corrections would enter into a contract with a private corporation to establish and operate the two programs. The programs envisioned by the bill would include three stages. Stage I would be a comprehensive, six-month residential program consisting of highly structured routines of discipline, physical exercise, work, substance abuse counseling, educational and vocational counseling, psychological counseling and self-improvement counseling stressing moral values and cognitive reasoning. Stage II would be a six-month, intensively supervised residential aftercare program which would include work opportunities and vocational training. Stage III would be a one-year community mentoring program.

If a sentencing court determines that a person being sentenced to a term of incarceration may be eligible for participation in the "Stabilization and Reintegration Program," (SRP), the court would note the conclusion in writing and include it as part of the offender's record to be forwarded to the Department of Corrections. An inmate who successfully completes the full two-year program would be released.

The bill also creates a "Stabilization and Reintegration Advisory Board," to monitor the operations of the program, act as liaison between the Department of Corrections and the program's director and staff, and make recommendations to the department or to the director.

This bill also amends the FY 1995 Appropriations Act to clarify that the \$3,000,000 appropriated to the Department of Corrections for the "Establishment of Youthful Offender Boot Camp" will be used to fund the SRP program.

The committee amended the bill to clarify that a person admitted to the SRP program must pay any fine, penalty, restitution or other financial obligation imposed by law or the court as a result of any adjudication or conviction. The committee amendments also clarify that the bill would not prohibit counties from establishing a boot camp program.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[FIRST REPRINT]

**SENATE, No. 1573**

with Senate committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JANUARY 12, 1995

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1573 (1R) with amendments.

Senate Bill No. 1573 (1R), as amended, creates two correctional and rehabilitative pilots programs for certain youthful and juvenile offenders. The programs would be established and operated by the Department of Corrections or the department may enter into a contract with a private corporation to operate the two programs.

The programs will have three stages: Stage I would be a six-month residential phase consisting of a daily routine of discipline, physical exercise, work, substance abuse counseling, educational and vocational counseling, psychological counseling and self-improvement counseling. Stage II would be a supervised six-month residential aftercare phase that would include work opportunities and vocational training. Stage III would be a one-year community mentoring phase.

Youthful offenders between 18 and 26 years of age who have been convicted of a crime of the third or fourth degree would be eligible for one program. Juveniles between 14 and 18 years of age who have been adjudicated delinquent for a crime of the third or fourth degree would be eligible for the other program. Persons convicted of crimes involving sexual assault or crimes requiring a mandatory term of imprisonment would not be eligible for participation in the programs.

The bill also creates a "Stabilization and Reintegration Advisory Board" to monitor the operations of the program, act as liaison between the Department of Corrections and the program's director and staff, and make recommendations to the department or to the director.

A person admitted to either program must pay any fine, penalty, restitution or other financial obligation imposed by law or the court as a result of any adjudication or conviction.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to:

\* Require the Department of Corrections to establish and operate the two pilot programs, but the department may enter into a contract with a private contractor to establish and operate the programs if this option is deemed to be in the best interest of the State;

\* Permit a private contractor to be a for-profit corporation; and

\* Require written approval of a municipal governing body for the establishment of residences needed for stage II of the program within the municipality.

FISCAL IMPACT

This bill amends the FY 1995 Appropriations Act to clarify that the \$3 million appropriated to the Department of Corrections for the "Establishment of Youthful Offender Boot Camp" will be used to fund the pilot programs set forth in this bill.

The Department of Corrections cannot estimate the actual cost of the pilot programs at this time.

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# OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR NEWS RELEASE

**CN-001**

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**Release:** TUES., 1/9/96

New Jersey's first boot camp for juvenile offenders can become a reality as a result of legislation signed today by Gov. Christie Whitman. The boot camp is part of Gov. Whitman's comprehensive reform of the juvenile justice system and reflects her commitment to holding juveniles accountable for the crimes they commit while giving them the tools to become productive citizens.

"The boot camp program is part of our overall goal to make sure that law-abiding citizens feel safe and secure in their neighborhood and to ensure that our children can look to the future with hope," said Gov. Whitman. "We need to intervene early and effectively and steer our trouble youngsters away from crime-ridden lives."

**S-1573/A-2318**, sponsored by Senators Louis Kasco (R-Bergen) and Robert Littell (R-Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris) and Assemblymen Patrick Roma (R-Bergen) and Monroe Jay Lustbader (R-Essex/Union), creates a boot camp to be operated either jointly by the newly created Juvenile Justice Commission and the Department of Corrections or by a private corporation.

The boot camp program has two stages. The first stage is a residential period consisting of a daily routine of discipline, physical exercise, work, substance abuse counseling, education and vocational training counseling, psychological counseling and self-improvement counseling. The second stage is an intensive aftercare program that includes work opportunities and vocational training. Offenders will remain on parole during the period.

Juveniles at least 14 years of age who have been adjudicated delinquent for a crime of the second, third or fourth degree will be eligible for the boot camp. Persons convicted of crimes involving sexual assault of crimes of the first degree will not be able to participate.

Approximately \$3 million is appropriated in the state budget for the boot camp.

Gov. Whitman signed the following legislation:

**A-915**, sponsored by Assemblyman Jeff Warsh (R-Bergen). This bill increases the citizen membership of the New Jersey State Commission on Aging from 9 to 15 and adds an additional ex-officio member.

**A-971/S-2395**, sponsored by Assemblymen Jack Collins (R-Cumberland/Gloucester) and Gary Stultragher (R-Salem/Cumberland/Gloucester) and Senator William Haines (R-Atlantic/Burlington/Camden). This bill conforms the motor fuels use tax to the International Fuel Tax Agreement.