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(DEP-Employment)

NJSA:

13:1D-13.1

LAWS OF:

1991

CHAPTER 415

BILL NO:

A4512

SPONSOR(S)

Bryant and Franks

DATE INTRODUCED:

March 4, 1991

COMMITTEE:

ASSEMBLY:

Energy & Environment Land Use Management

SENATE:

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

Senate Substitute Enacted

DATE OF PASSAGE:

ASSEMBLY:

June 20, 1991

SENATE:

January 9, 1992

DATE OF APPROVAL:

January 17, 1992

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

SPONSOR STATEMENT:

Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT:

ASSEMBLY:

Yes

SENATE:

Yes

FISCAL NOTE:

No

VETO MESSAGE:

No

MESSAGE ON SIGNING:

No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

REPORTS:

No

HEARINGS:

No

See newspaper clippings--attached

KBG/bas

ASSEMBLY, No. 4512

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ADOPTED DECEMBER 12, 1991

Sponsored by Assemblymen BRYANT, FRANKS and Assemblywoman Cooper

AN ACT concerning certain employees of the Department of Environmental Protection, amending P.L.1966, c.54, and supplementing P.L.1970, c.33 (C.13:1D-1 et seq.).

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

- 1. Section 1 of P.L.1966, c.54 (C.13:1B-15.100) is amended to read as follows:
- 1. Within the Department of [Conservation and Economic Development] Environmental Protection there shall be a Division of Parks[,] and Forestry [and Recreation].

The division shall be under the immediate supervision of a director, who shall be a person qualified by academic training and at least 7 years of responsible professional experience in the management of public parks, forests, and outdoor recreation facilities to direct the work of such division. [The director of such the division shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, and shall serve during the term of office of the Governor appointing him and until the director's successor is appointed and qualified.]

(cf: P.L.1966, c.54, s.1)

- 2. (New section) a. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary in Title 11A (Civil Service) of the New Jersey Statutes, the following titles in the Department of Environmental Protection shall be assigned or reassigned, within 60 days of the effective date of this act, to the unclassified service:
 - (1) Assistant commissioners; and
- (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection b. and d. of this section, division directors.
- b. The titles of Director, Division of Personnel and Director, Division of Fiscal Management and General Services, in the Department of Environmental Protection, shall remain, as applicable, in the competitive division of the classified service or the senior executive service.
- c. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall, within 60 days of the effective date of this act and thereafter, appoint all persons to the positions with titles assigned or reassigned to the unclassified service pursuant to this section, who shall serve at the pleasure of the commissioner.

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

- d. The provisions of this section shall not apply to the Director of the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife, as reconstituted pursuant to section 25 of P.L.1948, c.448 (C.13:1B-23).
- 3. (New section) a. Any employee of the Department of Environmental Protection in the classified service holding a position on the effective date of this act that has been assigned or reassigned to the State unclassified service pursuant to section 2 of this act, who is not reappointed within the 60-day period to a position allocated to the State unclassified service pursuant to that section, shall be eligible to be reinstated to the position last held in the classified service prior to appointment to the position assigned or reassigned to the unclassified service.
- b. An employee in the classified service appointed on or after the effective date of this act to a position in the department that is assigned or reassigned to the unclassified service pursuant to section 2 of this act, shall be eligible, upon termination of that appointment, to be reinstated to the position last held in the classified service prior to that persons's appointment to any position so assigned or reassigned pursuant to the provisions of Title 11A (Civil Service) of the New Jersey Statutes.
- 4. (New section) a. Within 60 days of the effective date of this act, the Department of Personnel shall, pursuant to N.J.S.11A:3-1, assign or reassign,
- (1) to the competitive division of the classified service, the following titles in the Department of Environmental Protection:
- (a) all Manager 3, Environmental Protection and Manager 3, Waste Management positions;
- (b) all Manager 4, Environmental Protection, and Manager 4, Waste Management positions; and
- (c) all Section Chief, Environmental Protection positions and all Section Chief, Waste Management positions; and
- (2) to the senior executive service, the titles of Deputy Director and assistant director in the Division of Parks and Forestry, Department of Environmental Protection.

Employees serving in the unclassified service in any of the positions subject to paragraph (1) of this subsection, other than the titles of all Section Chief, Environmental Protection positions, on the date of assignment or reassignment of such titles, shall be appointed to the classified service through the non-competitive interim appointment process, and upon completion of the working test periods therefor, the positions shall be reallocated to the competitive division of the classified service.

- b. All persons holding a position in any of the titles subject to the provisions of subsection a. of this section on the date of assignment or reassignment of such titles by the Department of Personnel, shall, as necessary, be transferred as of that date to, as appropriate, the competitive division of the classified service, or the senior executive service.
 - c. Within 60 days of the filing of a written request by the

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Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Personnel shall, pursuant to N.J.S.11A:3-1, establish within the Department of Environmental Protection a title series for the department-wide processing of permits. The title series shall be, except as other provided by law, in the competitive division of the classified service. The series shall provide a second career track wherein progression to higher level titles, including permit review titles equivalent to supervisory positions, shall be based on the assumption of permit review responsibilities of higher complexity without any supervisory responsibilities.

- d. Appointments to any of the positions subject to this section shall be in accordance with applicable laws and rules, regulations, policies and practices of the Department of Personnel not inconsistent herewith.
- e. The provisions of this section shall not apply to employees of the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife, as reconstituted pursuant to section 25 of P.L.1948, c.448 (C.13:1B-23).
- 5. (New section) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall, on the 30th day of the third month following the effective date of this act, and semi-annually thereafter, submit a report identifying and listing the vacant positions within the department to the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, the Senate Revenue, Finance and Appropriations Committee, the Assembly Energy and Environment Committee, and the Assembly Appropriations Committee, or their successors. The provisions of this section shall expire five years following the effective date of this act.
 - 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

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Regulates the employment of certain employees of DEP.

ASSEMBLY, No. 4512

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 4, 1991

By Assemblymen BRYANT and FRANKS

AN ACT concerning certain employees of the Department of Environmental Protection, amending P.L.1948, c.448, P.L.1966, c.54, N.J.S.11A:3-4 and supplementing chapter 3 of Title 11A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

- 1. Section 8 of P.L.1948, c.448 (C.13:1B-8) is amended to read as follows:
- 8. The Division of [Resource Development] Coastal Resources shall be under the immediate supervision of a director, who shall be a person qualified by training and experience to direct the work of [such] the division. The director of [such] the division shall [be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, and shall serve during the term of office of the Governor appointing him and until the director's successor is appointed and has qualified. He] serve at the pleasure of the commissioner, and shall receive [such] a salary as shall be provided by law.

The director shall administer the work of [such] the division under the direction and supervision of the commissioner, and shall perform such other functions of the department as commissioner may prescribe.

(cf: P.L.1961, c.47, s.4)

- 2. Section 1 of P.L.1966, c.54 (C.13:1B-15.100) is amended to read as follows:
- Within the Department of [Conservation and Economic Development] Environmental Protection there shall be a Division of Parks[,] and Forestry [and Recreation].

The division shall be under the immediate supervision of a director, who shall be a person qualified by academic training and at least 7 years of responsible professional experience in the management of public parks, forests, and outdoor recreation facilities to direct the work of such division. The director of [such] the division shall [be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, and shall serve during the term of office of the Governor appointing him and until the director's successor is appointed and qualified] serve at the pleasure of the commissioner.

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(cf: P.L.1966, c.54, s.1) 40

 $\hbox{\it EXPLANATION---Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law. } \\$

- 3. N.J.S.11A:3-4 is amended to read as follows:
- 11A:3-4. State unclassified service. The State unclassified service shall not be subject to the provisions of this title unless otherwise specified and shall include the following:
 - a. Appointments of the Governor;
- b. Department heads and members of boards and commissions authorized by law;
 - c. Employees in the legislative branch of State government;
 - d. Heads of institutions;

- e. Superintendents, teachers and instructors in the public schools, the agricultural experiment station and State institutions, where certified teachers are employed under the supervision of and qualified by the State Department of Education, and other institutions maintained wholly or in part by the State;
 - f. Physicians, surgeons and dentists;
- g. Assistant and Deputy Attorneys General and legal assistants appointed by the Attorney General;
- h. One secretary and one confidential assistant to each department head, board, principal executive officer and commission. Each certification and appointment hereunder shall be recorded in the minutes of the board;
 - i. Employees in the military or naval service of the State;
 - j. Student assistants;
 - k. Domestic employees in the Governor's household; [and]
- l. Assistant division directors, deputy division directors, division directors, deputy assistant commissioners or assistant commissioners in the Department of Environmental Protection, who shall be appointed by the commissioner thereof; provided, however, the provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any person holding a position enumerated herein on an "acting" or interim basis for a period of time not to exceed 120 days; and
- [l.] \underline{m} . All other titles as provided by law or as the board may determine.
- (cf: N. J.S.11A:3-4)
 - 4. a. (New section) Upon the effective date of this act, an employee of the Department of Environmental Protection in the career service holding a position that has been assigned to the State unclassified service pursuant to N.J.S.11A:3-4, unless appointed to a position in the State unclassified service, shall be assigned to the position in the career service held prior to appointment to the position in the Department of Environmental Protection assigned to the State unclassified service pursuant to N.J.S.11A:3-4.
 - b. Upon the effective date of this act, an employee in the career service appointed to a position in the Department of Environmental Protection assigned to the State unclassified service pursuant to N.J.S.11A:3-4 shall at the time of that appointment, no longer be in the career service, and thereafter shall not be subject to the provisions of this title.

- 5. (New section) The commissioner shall, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.11A:3-1, establish a single title in the noncompetitive division of the career service for employees of the Department of Environmental Protection who review permit applications submitted to that department pursuant to law, and shall provide for the periodic reassignment, at the direction of the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, between the various divisions of the Department of Environmental Protection of any employee assigned to that title.
- 6. (New section) The commissioner shall, on the 30th day of the third month following the effective date of this act, and quarterly thereafter, submit a report identifying and listing the vacant positions within the Department of Environmental Protection to the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, the Senate Revenue, Finance and Appropriations Committee, the Assembly Energy and Environment Committee, and the Assembly Appropriations Committee, or their successors.
- 7. This act shall take effect on the 120th day after enactment, but the Commissioner of Environmental Protection may take any anticipatory actions in advance, including the making of authorized appointments, as may be necessary for the timely implementation of the act on the effective date thereof. Section 6 of this act shall expire five years after the effective date of this act.

STATEMENT

This bill would make certain changes in the manner in which personnel are appointed to certain positions within the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Specifically, the bill would provide that the Director of the Division of Coastal Resources, the successor to the Division of Marine Services, which in turn was the successor to the Division of Resource Management in the now superseded Department of Conservation and Economic Development, would serve at the pleasure of the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, rather than by appointment of the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate. The bill would also remove these gubernatorial appointment and Senate confirmation provisions from the Director of the Division of Parks and Forestry.

The bill also amends N.J.S.11A:3-4 to provide that any person holding the title of assistant division director, deputy division director, division director, deputy assistant commissioner or assistant commissioner in the DEP shall be included in the State unclassified service, and not be subject to the provisions of Title 11A, Civil Service, of the New Jersey Statutes. Persons holding these positions upon the effective date of this bill will be required to either: relinquish their civil service protections under Title 11A; or, return to a position in the career service.

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This bill would also direct the Commissioner of Personnel to establish a new title and position in the DEP for all employees engaged in the approval of environmental permits required by law. The position created by the provisions of this bill would be assigned to the noncompetitive division of the career service provided for in N.J.S.11A:3-2, and employees holding such positions could be reassigned to the various divisions within DEP at the discretion of the Commissioner of Environmental Protection.

The bill would also establish a procedure by which the number of vacant positions within the DEP are made known to the appropriate committees of the Legislature on a quarterly basis for the next five years.

ENVIRONMENT

Regulates the employment of certain employees of DEP.

ASSEMBLY ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 4512

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 10, 1991

Assembly Bill No. 4512, with committee amendments, is reported favorably by the Assembly Energy and Environment Committee.

This bill transfers certain managerial positions in the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to the unclassified service and certain other management and entry positions to the noncompetitive classified service, and creates a new series of supervisory level positions for permit reviewers without supervisory responsibilities.

The main provisions of the bill are as follows:

- (1) The positions of Assistant Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and Division Directors in the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) are allocated to the unclassified services, except as otherwise specifically provided by law, and the Commissioner of DEP is vested with the authority to make appointments to those positions.
- (2) The authority to appoint the Director of the Division of Coastal Resources and the Director of the Division of Parks and Forestry are transferred from the Governor to the commissioner.
- (3) Persons in the career service who, upon enactment of this bill, hold any of the positions identified in paragraphs (1) and (2) are authorized to be reinstated to the last career service position held by that person, unless that person is appointed to an unclassified position. The right of reinstatement to the last classified position held is also extended to persons appointed to the foregoing unclassifed positions after the effective date of this bill.
- (4) The Department of Personnel is directed to reallocate certain managerial titles and certain entry and intern positions to the non-competitive classified service.
- (5) A new series of titles are created for persons engaged in the department-wide processing of permits. Such positions will, however, remain in the competitive career service.
- (6) The commissioner is required to transmit semi-annual reports to designated legislative committees on vacant positions within the department for the next five years.

The purpose of the reclassifications provided in this bill are threefold:

(1) to make all managerial decisionmakers accountable to the commissioner;

- (2) to provide for a more flexible and, when needed, a more expeditious recruitment of competent staff members to help cope with marked fluctuations in the department's workload, and with employee turnover; and
- (3) as permit review processes become more complex, to maximize mobility and career opportunities within DEP for competent and experienced permit writers.

The Committee amendments:

- (1) specify with greater particularity the positions or titles affected by this bill;
 - (2) provide a dual career path for permit reviewers;
 - (3) change the reporting intervals; and
- (4) make clear that Division Directors otherwise appointed by law, and other employees of the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife, are specifically excluded from the provisions of the bill.

SENATE LAND USE MANAGEMENT AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR ASSEMBLY, No. 4512

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 12, 1991

The Senate Land Use Management and Regional Affairs Committee favorably reports a committee substitute for Assembly Bill No. 4512.

This committee substitute transfers certain managerial positions in the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to the unclassified service, certain other management positions to the competitive classified service, and creates a new series of supervisory level positions for permit reviewers without supervisory responsibilities.

The main provisions of the committee substitute are as follows:

- (1) The positions of Assistant Commissioner and Division Directors in the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) are allocated to the unclassified services, except as otherwise specifically provided by law, and the Commissioner of DEP is vested with the authority to make appointments to those positions.
- (2) The authority to appoint the Director of the Division of Parks and Forestry is transferred from the Governor to the commissioner.
- (3) Persons in the career service who, upon enactment of this bill, hold any of the positions identified in paragraphs (1) and (2) and who are not appointed to those positions by the commissioner, are authorized to be reinstated to the last competitive service position held by that person. The right of reinstatement to the last classified position held is also extended to persons appointed to the foregoing unclassified positions after the effective date of this committee substitute.
- (4) The Department of Personnel is directed to reallocate certain managerial titles to the competitive division of the classified service.
- (5) The Department of Personnel is directed to create a new series of titles for persons engaged in the department-wide processing of permits. Such positions will, however, remain in the competitive division of the classified service.
- (6) The commissioner is required to transmit semi-annual reports to designated legislative committees on vacant positions within the department for the next five years.

The purpose of the reclassifications provided in this bill are twofold:

(1) to make all managerial decisionmakers accountable to the commissioner; and

(2) as permit review processes become more complex, to maximize mobility and career opportunities within DEP for competent and experienced permit writers.

Finally, the committee substitute would make clear that Division Directors otherwise appointed by law, and other employees of the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife, are specifically excluded from the provisions of the bill.

This committee substitute is identical to the committee substitute for Senate Bill No. 3627.