

# 34:15F-1 to 35:15F-11

## LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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**LAWS OF:** 1999                    **CHAPTER:** 279

**NJSA:** 34:15F-1 to 35:15F-11 (At Risk Mentoring Program – Dept. of Labor)

**BILL NO:** S1220                    (Substituted for A1760)

**SPONSOR(S):** Lipman and Palaia

**DATE INTRODUCED:** June 22, 1998

**COMMITTEE:**                    **ASSEMBLY:** ----

**SENATE:** Education; Budget and Appropriations

**AMENDED DURING PASSAGE:** Yes

**DATE OF PASSAGE:**                    **ASSEMBLY:** May 24, 1999                    **Re-enacted:** December-9, 1999

**SENATE:** May 24, 1999                    **Re-enacted:** November 15, 1999

**DATE OF APPROVAL:** December 17, 1999

**FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:**

**FINAL TEXT OF BILL:** Senate Committee Substitute (Second Reprint)  
(Amendments during passage denoted by superscript numbers)

### S1220

**SPONSORS STATEMENT:** (Begins on page 3 of original bill) [Yes](#)

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:**                    **ASSEMBLY:** No

**SENATE:**                    [Yes](#)    [3-18-99 \(Education\)](#)  
[Yes](#)    [5-20-99 \(Budget\)](#)

**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS:** No

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** [Yes](#)

### A1760

**SPONSORS STATEMENT:** (Begins on page 3 of original bill) [Yes](#)

Bill and Sponsors Statement identical to S1220

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:**                    **ASSEMBLY:**                    [Yes](#)    [6-4-98 \(Education\)](#)  
[Yes](#)    [9-14-98 \(Approp.\)](#)

**SENATE:** No

**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS:** [Yes](#)

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** [Yes](#)

**VETO MESSAGE:** [Yes](#)

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON CONDITIONAL VETO:

Yes

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:

Yes

**FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:**

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**REPORTS:**

No

**HEARINGS:**

No

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:**

No

Title 34.  
Chapter 15F. (New)  
Youth Mentoring  
§§1-11 -  
C.34:15F-1 to  
34:15F-11  
§12 - Approp.  
§13 - Note to §12

P.L. 1999, CHAPTER 279, *approved December 17, 1999*  
Senate Committee Substitute (*Second Reprint*) for  
Senate, No. 1220

1 **AN ACT** establishing a mentoring program for at-risk public school  
2 students, supplementing chapter 54 of Title 18A of the New Jersey  
3 Statutes and making an appropriation.

4

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

7

8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that there are a significant  
9 number of students in New Jersey who are economically and socially  
10 disadvantaged and who are alienated from the community and school.  
11 These students are at-risk of substance abuse, teen pregnancy or other  
12 behavioral problems that inhibit academic achievement and successful  
13 integration into society.

14 The Legislature further finds that mentoring programs that develop  
15 relationships between professionally trained and committed adult  
16 volunteers and at-risk students, for the purpose of providing support,  
17 counseling, reinforcement and constructive examples, create an  
18 environment in which students can achieve their full academic potential  
19 and which fosters their future success as productive citizens of the  
20 State.

21

22 2. As used in this act:

23 <sup>2</sup>"Abbott district" means one of the 28 urban districts in district  
24 factor groups A and B specifically identified in the appendix to  
25 Raymond Abbott, et al. v. Fred G. Burke, et al. decided by the New  
26 Jersey Supreme Court on June 5, 1990 (119 N.J. 287, 394) or any  
27 other district classified as a special needs district under the "Quality  
28 Education Act of 1990," P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-1 et al.);<sup>2</sup>

29 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Labor;

30 "Department" means the Department of Labor;

31 "Educational foundation" means a non-profit organization that may  
32 be created by or on behalf of a board of education <sup>2</sup>and that has as

**EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and 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 SBA committee amendments adopted May 20, 1999.

<sup>2</sup> Senate amendments adopted in accordance with Governor's recommendations October 25, 1999.

1 its principle purpose the operation of a mentoring program<sup>1</sup> or a non-  
2 profit organization that has experience in the establishment of  
3 mentoring programs or the provision of services to at-risk youth<sup>2</sup>;

4 "Joint committee" means the Joint Committee on Mentoring;

5 "Mentor" means a volunteer from the community who agrees to  
6 participate in a mentoring program; and

7 "Program" means the At-Risk Youth Mentoring Program  
8 established by this act.

9  
10 3. There is established in the Department of Labor an At-Risk  
11 Youth Mentoring Program to be administered by the Commissioner of  
12 Labor pursuant to the provisions of this act. The commissioner shall  
13 consult with <sup>2</sup>the Department of Human Services, the Department of  
14 Education and other appropriate State agencies regarding the  
15 development, operation and administration of the program. The  
16 commissioner shall also consult with<sup>2</sup> the Community Agencies  
17 Corporation of New Jersey and other public and private nonprofit  
18 organizations providing youth mentoring services <sup>2</sup>[in the  
19 development, operation and administration of the program]<sup>2</sup>. The  
20 program shall provide for the training of volunteer mentors <sup>2</sup>through  
21 local collaborative partnerships between the school district, the  
22 educational foundation and other community based organizations<sup>2</sup> and  
23 for the assignment of mentors to at-risk students enrolled within a  
24 participating school district. <sup>2</sup>The program shall also provide for  
25 collaboration with public and private organizations that provide  
26 comprehensive health, employment, and social services to youth.<sup>2</sup> The  
27 purpose of the program shall be to enable at-risk students to develop  
28 a relationship with a caring and responsible adult to provide the  
29 personal and emotional support necessary for school success and  
30 future successful functioning in society.

31  
32 4. There is established within the Department of Labor a separate  
33 grant fund to be known as the "At-Risk Youth Mentoring Grant  
34 Fund." An educational foundation shall be eligible to apply for a grant  
35 <sup>2</sup>of a minimum<sup>2</sup> of \$25,000 <sup>2</sup>up to a maximum of \$50,000, depending  
36 on the size of the program,<sup>2</sup> in order to pay the expenses associated  
37 with the operation and maintenance of a mentoring program. During  
38 the first year of implementation of the program, only educational  
39 foundations operating in Abbott districts <sup>2</sup>[or in the school districts  
40 of Plainfield or Neptune City]<sup>2</sup> shall be eligible to receive a grant.

41  
42 5. An educational foundation shall submit an application for a  
43 grant to the commissioner for his review. The application shall  
44 provide the following information: the name of the educational  
45 foundation; the name of the school district that created or authorized  
46 the creation of the foundation <sup>2</sup>if applicable<sup>2</sup>; the name of the

1 coordinating teacher; <sup>2</sup>**[any request to exceed the prescribed limit on**  
2 **the number of student participants;]**<sup>2</sup> a description of the activities  
3 of the program; the number and grade level of the students who will  
4 participate in the program; the process of student referral to the  
5 program; the selection criteria for student participants, which shall  
6 include the identification of students who are not successfully meeting  
7 the core curriculum content standards and district standards of  
8 behavior; the procedure for the identification and selection of adult  
9 mentors; <sup>2</sup>an implementation schedule; a plan for supervision of the  
10 program; a training plan; a plan for quality assurance and evaluation;<sup>2</sup>  
11 and the process which will be utilized to match students to mentors.  
12 <sup>2</sup>An educational foundation shall also submit with its application a  
13 letter of commitment defining agreements to provide mentoring  
14 services for at-risk public school students in its respective school  
15 district. Preference may be given to applicants that have prior  
16 experience in the establishment and oversight of mentoring programs  
17 and the provision of services to at-risk youth.<sup>2</sup>

18

19 6. a. Under the program each mentor shall commit to participate  
20 in the program for a minimum of one calendar year. Each student shall  
21 meet with a mentor one day per week for at least one hour unless the  
22 district determines that some other schedule would be of greater  
23 benefit to the student. Any meeting between the mentor and the  
24 student may also occur off school property or before or after school  
25 hours for the purpose of engaging in enrichment activities.

26 b. A program shall not <sup>2</sup>serve less than 25 students nor<sup>2</sup> exceed  
27 <sup>2</sup>**[25]** <sup>2</sup>**50**<sup>2</sup> students <sup>2</sup>**[per school building]**<sup>2</sup>, unless exceeding such  
28 a limit is approved by the commissioner. <sup>2</sup>**[The commissioner shall**  
29 **not withhold approval of a request to exceed the student limit unless**  
30 **it appears with sufficient certainty that the proposed mentoring**  
31 **program will be unable to accommodate more than the specified limit.**  
32 **An educational foundation may appeal the commissioner's decision**  
33 **concerning the student limit to the joint committee.]**<sup>2</sup>

34

35 7. Notwithstanding any provision of P.L.1986, c.116 (C.18A:6-  
36 7.1 et seq.) to the contrary, a mentor shall undergo a criminal history  
37 record check in accordance with the procedures established in that act,  
38 except that the <sup>2</sup>**[district]** educational foundation<sup>2</sup> shall bear the cost  
39 of the check, including all costs for administering and providing the  
40 check.

41

42 8. There is created a joint legislative committee to be known as  
43 the Joint Committee on Mentoring. The joint committee shall be  
44 comprised of 12 members, six members from each House. The  
45 President of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the Senate shall  
46 each appoint three members, and the Speaker of the General Assembly

1 and the Minority Leader of the General Assembly shall each appoint  
2 three members. <sup>2</sup>【The joint committee shall have oversight  
3 responsibility with regard to the mentoring grants and the mentoring  
4 program, and shall make such recommendations for the revision of the  
5 program as the amount of the grants and the limit on the number of  
6 participating students. The recommendations of the joint committee  
7 shall be deemed approved if not disapproved within 90 days, or if no  
8 quorum is scheduled within 90 days of the date of the issuance of the  
9 recommendations, at the next quorum, by the adoption of a concurrent  
10 resolution by the Senate and General Assembly. In addition, the joint  
11 committee shall, after the second year of the operation of the program,  
12 recommend whether the program should be expanded to other school  
13 districts.】<sup>2</sup>

14  
15 9. <sup>2</sup>a.<sup>2</sup> An educational foundation shall submit<sup>2</sup>【a】 an annual<sup>2</sup>  
16 report on the progress of its mentoring program to the <sup>2</sup>department  
17 and to the<sup>2</sup> joint committee on or before May 1 of each year. The  
18 report shall include information concerning the number of mentors and  
19 students participating in the program, the approximate number of  
20 hours each mentor spent with the students over the course of the  
21 preceding year, <sup>2</sup>the utilization of grant funds,<sup>2</sup> and a general  
22 description of activities conducted pursuant to the program. <sup>2</sup>The  
23 department may establish additional reporting requirements as  
24 necessary.<sup>2</sup>

25 <sup>2</sup>b. On or before January 1 of the third year of the program, the  
26 commissioner shall report to the Governor, the joint committee, the  
27 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the General Assembly, and the  
28 Minority Leaders of the Senate and the General Assembly on the  
29 effectiveness and implementation of the program. The report shall  
30 include a recommendation on whether the program should be  
31 continued. If the Legislature does not act on the recommendation by  
32 the adoption of a concurrent resolution within 60 days of the  
33 commissioner's submission of the report, then the commissioner's  
34 recommendation regarding continuation of the program shall take  
35 effect following the expiration of the third year of the program.<sup>2</sup>

36  
37 10. <sup>2</sup>【Beginning in the second full-year following approval of  
38 P.L. , c. (C. )(now pending before the Legislature as this bill),  
39 a】 A<sup>2</sup> school district may <sup>2</sup>【fund a mentoring program with】 apply to  
40 the Commissioner of Education for approval to use<sup>2</sup> Demonstrably  
41 Effective Program Aid provided pursuant to section 18 of P.L.1996,  
42 c.138 (C.18A:7F-18) <sup>2</sup>to supplement a grant provided pursuant to the  
43 provisions of this act. An application may be made and approved only  
44 when the costs of a mentoring program exceed the amount of a grant  
45 and when the district, in collaboration with the educational foundation,  
46 has made every reasonable effort to obtain funding from other

1 sources<sup>2</sup>. A district may amend <sup>1</sup>**[it] its**<sup>1</sup> plans for the use of  
2 Demonstrably Effective Program Aid to include a mentoring program.

3 <sup>2</sup>The Commissioner of Education may require that Abbott district  
4 mentoring programs receiving Demonstrably Effective Program Aid  
5 meet applicable whole school reform requirements.<sup>2</sup>

6

7 11. The Department of Labor shall adopt, pursuant to the  
8 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
9 seq.), the rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions  
10 of this act.

11

12 12. The sum of \$750,000 is transferred from the Work First New  
13 Jersey - Work Activities account in the Department of Human Services  
14 to the Workforce Development Partnership Fund in the Department of  
15 Labor. There is appropriated from the Workforce Development  
16 Partnership Fund to the At-Risk Youth Mentoring Grant Fund  
17 established in the Department of Labor \$750,000 to effectuate the  
18 purposes of this act.

19

20 13. <sup>2</sup>**[If the State receives federal funds sufficient to cover all or**  
21 **a portion of the \$750,000 appropriated for the program pursuant to**  
22 **section 12 of this act, those federal funds shall be deposited in the**  
23 **Workforce Development Partnership Fund to reimburse that fund for**  
24 **the appropriation made pursuant to this act]** In lieu of funding the At  
25 Risk Youth Mentoring Grant Fund from the Department of Human  
26 Services' Work First New Jersey Activities account, federal funds  
27 available to the Department of Labor may be utilized for this  
28 program<sup>2</sup>.

29

30 14. This act shall take effect immediately.

31

32

33

34

35 Establishes an At-Risk Youth Mentoring Program in Department of  
36 Labor; appropriates \$750,000.

# SENATE, No. 1220

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 22, 1998

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator WYNONA M. LIPMAN**

**District 29 (Essex and Union)**

**Senator JOSEPH A. PALAIA**

**District 11 (Monmouth)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senator Turner**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires the Commissioner of Education to establish a mentoring program for at-risk public school students.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/19/1999)**



1 AN ACT establishing a mentoring program for at-risk public school  
2 students and supplementing chapter 54 of Title 18A of the New  
3 Jersey Statutes.

4  
5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:

7  
8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that there is a significant  
9 number of students in New Jersey who are economically and socially  
10 disadvantaged and who are alienated from the community and school.  
11 These students are at-risk of substance abuse, teen pregnancy or other  
12 behavioral problems which inhibit academic achievement and  
13 successful integration into society.

14 The Legislature further finds that mentoring programs that develop  
15 relationships between professionally trained and committed adult  
16 volunteers and at-risk students, for the purpose of providing support,  
17 counseling, reinforcement and constructive examples, creates an  
18 environment in which students can achieve their full academic potential  
19 and which fosters their future success as productive citizens of the  
20 State.

21  
22 2. There is established in the Department of Education an At-Risk  
23 Youth Mentoring Program to be administered by the Commissioner of  
24 Education pursuant to the provisions of this act. The commissioner  
25 shall consult with the Community Agencies Corporation of New Jersey  
26 and other public and private nonprofit organizations providing youth  
27 mentoring services in the development, operation and administration  
28 of the program. The program shall provide for the training of  
29 volunteer mentors and for the assignment of mentors to at-risk  
30 students enrolled within the district. The purpose of the program shall  
31 be to enable at-risk students to develop a relationship with a caring  
32 and responsible adult to provide the personal and emotional support  
33 necessary for school success and future successful functioning in  
34 society.

35  
36 3. a. The commissioner shall develop and administer the program  
37 within all local school districts of the State. Each school district shall  
38 provide to the commissioner an outline of a proposed mentoring  
39 program which shall include, but not be limited to: information on the  
40 number and grade level of the at-risk students who will participate in  
41 the program; the process of student referral to the program; the  
42 selection criteria for student participants which shall include the  
43 identification of students who are not successfully meeting the core  
44 curriculum content standards and district standards of behavior; the  
45 procedure for the identification and selection of adult mentors; the  
46 identification of any public or private nonprofit organizations that will

1 assist the district in providing mentoring services; and the process  
2 which will be utilized to match students to mentors.

3 b. Under the program each mentor shall commit to participate in  
4 the program for a minimum of one calendar year. Each student shall  
5 meet with a mentor one day per week for at least one hour unless the  
6 district determines that some other schedule would be of greater  
7 benefit to the student. Any meeting between the mentor and the  
8 student may also occur off school property or before or after school  
9 hours for the purpose of engaging in enrichment activities.

10 c. School districts that are eligible to receive demonstrably  
11 effective program aid under section 18 of P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-  
12 18) shall utilize that aid to finance the costs associated with the  
13 program. The commissioner shall identify other State or federal funds  
14 available for services for at-risk students to fund the mentoring  
15 program in school districts that are not eligible to receive  
16 demonstrably effective program aid.

17

18 4. The commissioner shall implement a plan to collect data on the  
19 effectiveness of the program in meeting the needs and conditions of  
20 students which place them at-risk of academic and social failure. The  
21 plan shall include a system to track student participants to determine  
22 if those students successfully complete the school year and an  
23 evaluation of its impact in assisting participants in meeting the core  
24 curriculum content standards and in assuming a meaningful and  
25 positive role in society.

26

27 5. The State Board of Education shall adopt, pursuant to the  
28 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
29 seq.), the rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions  
30 of this act.

31

32 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

33

34

35

#### STATEMENT

36

37 This bill establishes a mentoring program for at-risk public school  
38 students. The program is designed to help at-risk youths who lack a  
39 relationship with a caring and responsible adult to develop a  
40 relationship with a volunteer mentor. The mentor will be  
41 professionally trained to provide the personal and emotional support  
42 necessary for the at-risk student to achieve academic success and  
43 future successful functioning adult in society. Under the program, each  
44 student will meet with a mentor one day per week for a period of at  
45 least one hour unless the district determines that some other schedule  
46 would be of greater benefit to the student.

1 The bill directs the Commissioner of Education to develop and  
2 administer the program in each school district in the State. The  
3 commissioner is to consult with the Community Agencies Corporation  
4 of New Jersey and other public and private nonprofit organizations  
5 providing youth mentoring services in the development, operation and  
6 administration of the program.

7 Under the provisions of the bill, each school district is to provide  
8 to the commissioner an outline of a proposed program which must  
9 include, but not be limited to: information on the number and grade  
10 level of the at-risk students who will participate in the program; the  
11 process of student referral to the program; the selection criteria for  
12 student participants which must include the identification of students  
13 who are not successfully meeting the core curriculum content  
14 standards and district standards of behavior; the procedure for the  
15 identification and selection of adult mentors; the identification of any  
16 public and private nonprofit organizations that will assist the district  
17 in providing mentoring services; and the process which will be utilized  
18 to match students to mentors.

19 School districts that are eligible to receive demonstrably effective  
20 program aid under section 18 of P.L.1996 c.138 (C.18A:7F-18) shall  
21 utilize that aid to finance the costs associated with the program. The  
22 commissioner shall identify other State or federal funds available for  
23 services for at-risk students to fund the mentoring program in school  
24 districts that are not eligible to receive demonstrably effective program  
25 aid.

26 The commissioner is also directed to implement a plan to collect  
27 data on the effectiveness of the program in meeting the needs and  
28 conditions of students which place them at-risk of academic and social  
29 failure. The plan is to include a system to track student participants  
30 to determine if those students successfully complete the school year  
31 and assume a meaningful and positive role in society.

# SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR **SENATE, No. 1220**

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MARCH 18, 1999

The Senate Education Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1220 as a Senate Committee Substitute.

This committee substitute establishes in the Department of Labor an At-Risk Youth Mentoring Program to be administered by the Commissioner of Labor. The program would provide for the training of volunteer mentors and for the assignment of mentors to at-risk students enrolled within a participating school district. The purpose of the program is to enable at-risk students to develop a relationship with a caring and responsible adult to provide the personal and emotional support necessary for school success and future successful functioning in society.

The substitute also establishes within the Department of Labor a separate grant fund to be known as the "At-Risk Youth Mentoring Grant Fund." An educational foundation would be eligible to apply for a grant of \$25,000 in order to pay the expenses associated with the operation and maintenance of a mentoring program. During the first year of implementation of the program, only educational foundations operating in Abbott districts or in the school districts of Plainfield or Neptune City would be eligible to receive a grant.

An educational foundation is required to submit an application for a grant to the commissioner for his review. The application would provide such information as the name of the educational foundation; a description of the activities of the program; the process of student referral to the program; the procedure for the identification and selection of adult mentors; and the process which would be utilized to match students to mentors.

Under the program each mentor would commit to participate in the program for a minimum of one calendar year. Each student would meet with a mentor one day per week for at least one hour unless the district determines that some other schedule would be of greater benefit to the student. Any meeting between the mentor and the student could also occur off school property or before or after school hours for the purpose of engaging in enrichment activities. A program could not exceed 25 students per school building, unless exceeding such a limit is approved by the commissioner.

The substitute creates a joint legislative committee to be known as the Joint Committee on Mentoring. The joint committee would be comprised of 12 members, six members from each House, appointed by the presiding officers and minority leaders. The joint committee would have oversight responsibility with regard to the mentoring grants and the mentoring program, and would make such recommendations for the revision of the program as the amount of the grants and the limits on the number of participating students.

An educational foundation must submit a report on the progress of its mentoring program to the joint committee on or before May 1 of each year.

Beginning in the second full-year following approval of the substitute, a school district could fund a mentoring program with Demonstrably Effective Program Aid provided under the provisions of CEIFA.

The substitute transfers \$750,000 from the Work First New Jersey - Work Activities account in the Department of Human Services to the Workforce Development Partnership Fund in the Department of Labor and then appropriates that amount from the fund to the At-Risk Youth Mentoring Grant Fund established in the Department of Labor. In addition, the substitute provides that if the State receives federal funds sufficient to cover all or a portion of the \$750,000 appropriated for the program, those federal funds would be deposited into the Workforce Development Partnership Fund to reimburse that fund for the appropriation made under the substitute.

As reported, this substitute is identical to the Assembly Substitute for Assembly, No. 1760 with Assembly amendments.

# SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR **SENATE, No. 1220**

with committee amendments

## **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MAY 20, 1999

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 1220 (SCS).

This bill establishes in the Department of Labor an At-Risk Youth Mentoring Program to be administered by the Commissioner of Labor. The program would provide for the training of volunteer mentors and for the assignment of mentors to at-risk students enrolled within a participating school district. The purpose of the program is to enable at-risk students to develop a relationship with a caring and responsible adult to provide the personal and emotional support necessary for school success and future successful functioning in society.

The legislation also establishes within the Department of Labor a separate grant fund to be known as the "At-Risk Youth Mentoring Grant Fund." An educational foundation would be eligible to apply for a grant of \$25,000 in order to pay the expenses associated with the operation and maintenance of a mentoring program. During the first year of implementation of the program, only educational foundations operating in Abbott districts would be eligible to receive a grant.

An educational foundation is required to submit an application for a grant to the commissioner for his review. The application would provide such information as the name of the educational foundation; a description of the activities of the program; the process of student referral to the program; the procedure for the identification and selection of adult mentors; and the process which would be utilized to match students to mentors.

Under the program each mentor would commit to participate in the program for a minimum of one calendar year. Each student would meet with a mentor one day per week for at least one hour unless the district determines that some other schedule would be of greater benefit to the student. Any meeting between the mentor and the student could also occur off school property or before or after school hours for the purpose of engaging in enrichment activities. A program could not exceed 25 students per school building, unless exceeding

such a limit is approved by the commissioner.

The bill creates a joint legislative committee to be known as the Joint Committee on Mentoring. The joint committee would be comprised of 12 members, six members from each House, appointed by the presiding officers and minority leaders. The joint committee would have oversight responsibility with regard to the mentoring grants and the mentoring program, and would make such recommendations for the revision of the program as the amount of the grants and the limits on the number of participating students.

An educational foundation must submit a report on the progress of its mentoring program to the joint committee on or before May 1 of each year.

Beginning in the second full-year following approval of the substitute, a school district could fund a mentoring program with demonstrably effective program aid provided under the provisions of the "Comprehensive Education Improvement and Financing Act" (CEIFA).

This substitute is identical to the Assembly Substitute for Assembly, No. 1760 with Assembly amendments.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Committee amendments to this bill make an editorial correction.

#### FISCAL IMPACT

The substitute transfers \$750,000 from the Work First New Jersey - Work Activities account in the Department of Human Services to the Workforce Development Partnership Fund in the Department of Labor and then appropriates that amount from the fund to the At-Risk Youth Mentoring Grant Fund established in the Department of Labor. In addition, the substitute provides that if the State receives federal funds sufficient to cover all or a portion of the \$750,000 appropriated for the program, those federal funds would be deposited into the Workforce Development Partnership Fund to reimburse that fund for the appropriation made under the substitute.

## FISCAL NOTE

# SENATE, No. 1220

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

## 208th LEGISLATURE

DATED: OCTOBER 9, 1998

Senate Bill No. 1220 of 1998 establishes an At-Risk Youth Mentoring Program in the Department of Education and directs the commissioner to develop and administer the program within all local school districts of the State. The commissioner is required to consult with the Community Agencies Corporation of New Jersey and other public and private nonprofit organizations providing youth mentoring services in the development and operation of the program. Under the bills' provision, each district is to provide the commissioner with an outline of its proposed program. Under its program, each local school district must select and provide training to individuals who volunteer to act as mentors. The district will assign students in need of such services to a mentor whom the student shall meet with for a minimum of one hour, one day per week.

The bill directs the commissioner to implement a plan to collect data on the effectiveness of the mentoring program in addressing the needs and conditions of students which put them at risk of academic and social failure. The plan must include a system to track student participants to determine if they successfully complete the school year and meet the core curriculum content standards. The bill authorizes the use of demonstrably effective program aid, provided under section 18 of the "Comprehensive Educational Improvement and Financing Act of 1996," P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-18), to support mentor training and other local district costs associated with the program, and directs the commissioner to identify other Federal or State funds to support the costs in districts not eligible to receive such aid.

The Office of Legislative Services estimates that, given the current staffing levels within the Department of Education, the provisions of this bill may be implemented without incurring any additional cost to the State. With respect to local school district costs, the \$187.3 million appropriated in FY 1999 for demonstrably effective program aid is authorized for the support of local training and program implementation.

This fiscal note has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67.



# ASSEMBLY, No. 1760

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 23, 1998

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman WILLIAM D. PAYNE**

**District 29 (Essex and Union)**

**Assemblyman JOSEPH V. DORIA, JR.**

**District 31 (Hudson)**

**Cosponsored by:**

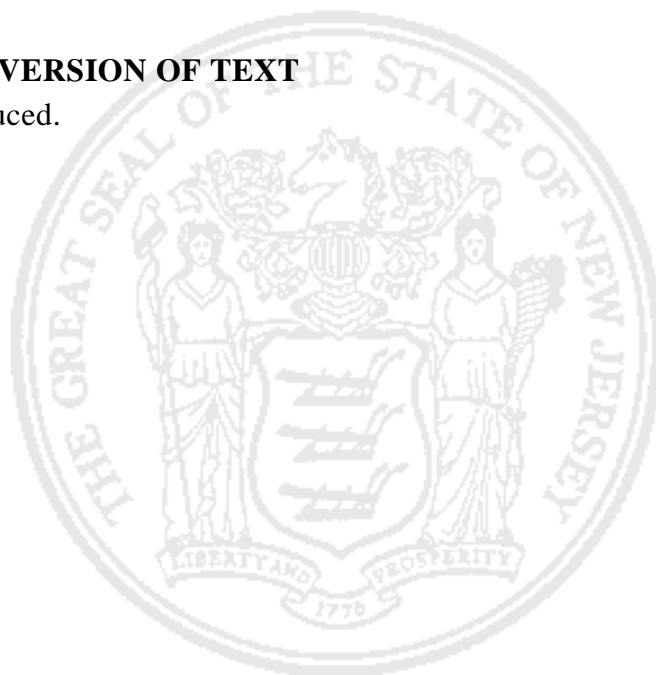
**Assemblyman Caraballo, Assemblywoman Gill, Assemblymen Jones, Wisniewski, Charles, T. Smith, Assemblywomen Weinberg, Watson Coleman, Pou, Assemblymen Kelly, Stanley and Blee**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires the Commissioner of Education to establish a mentoring program for at-risk public school students.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/19/1998)**

A1760 PAYNE, DORIA

2

1 AN ACT establishing a mentoring program for at-risk public school  
2 students and supplementing chapter 54 of Title 18A of the New  
3 Jersey Statutes.

4

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

7

8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that there is a significant  
9 number of students in New Jersey who are economically and socially  
10 disadvantaged and who are alienated from the community and school.  
11 These students are at-risk of substance abuse, teen pregnancy or other  
12 behavioral problems which inhibit academic achievement and  
13 successful integration into society.

14 The Legislature further finds that mentoring programs that develop  
15 relationships between professionally trained and committed adult  
16 volunteers and at-risk students, for the purpose of providing support,  
17 counseling, reinforcement and constructive examples, creates an  
18 environment in which students can achieve their full academic potential  
19 and which fosters their future success as productive citizens of the  
20 State.

21

22 2. There is established in the Department of Education an At-Risk  
23 Youth Mentoring Program to be administered by the Commissioner of  
24 Education pursuant to the provisions of this act. The commissioner  
25 shall consult with the Community Agencies Corporation of New Jersey  
26 and other public and private nonprofit organizations providing youth  
27 mentoring services in the development, operation and administration  
28 of the program. The program shall provide for the training of  
29 volunteer mentors and for the assignment of mentors to at-risk  
30 students enrolled within the district. The purpose of the program shall  
31 be to enable at-risk students to develop a relationship with a caring  
32 and responsible adult to provide the personal and emotional support  
33 necessary for school success and future successful functioning in  
34 society.

35

36 3. a. The commissioner shall develop and administer the program  
37 within all local school districts of the State. Each school district shall  
38 provide to the commissioner an outline of a proposed mentoring  
39 program which shall include, but not be limited to: information on the  
40 number and grade level of the at-risk students who will participate in  
41 the program; the process of student referral to the program; the  
42 selection criteria for student participants which shall include the  
43 identification of students who are not successfully meeting the core  
44 curriculum content standards and district standards of behavior; the  
45 procedure for the identification and selection of adult mentors; the

1 identification of any public or private nonprofit organizations that will  
2 assist the district in providing mentoring services; and the process  
3 which will be utilized to match students to mentors.

4 b. Under the program each mentor shall commit to participate in  
5 the program for a minimum of one calendar year. Each student shall  
6 meet with a mentor one day per week for at least one hour unless the  
7 district determines that some other schedule would be of greater  
8 benefit to the student. Any meeting between the mentor and the  
9 student may also occur off school property or before or after school  
10 hours for the purpose of engaging in enrichment activities.

11 c. School districts that are eligible to receive demonstrably  
12 effective program aid under section 18 of P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-  
13 18) shall utilize that aid to finance the costs associated with the  
14 program. The commissioner shall identify other State or federal funds  
15 available for services for at-risk students to fund the mentoring  
16 program in school districts that are not eligible to receive  
17 demonstrably effective program aid.

18

19 4. The commissioner shall implement a plan to collect data on the  
20 effectiveness of the program in meeting the needs and conditions of  
21 students which place them at-risk of academic and social failure. The  
22 plan shall include a system to track student participants to determine  
23 if those students successfully complete the school year and an  
24 evaluation of its impact in assisting participants in meeting the core  
25 curriculum content standards and in assuming a meaningful and  
26 positive role in society.

27

28 5. The State Board of Education shall adopt, pursuant to the  
29 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
30 seq.), the rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions  
31 of this act.

32

33 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

34

35

36

#### STATEMENT

37

38 This bill establishes a mentoring program for at-risk public school  
39 students. The program is designed to help at-risk youths who lack a  
40 relationship with a caring and responsible adult to develop a  
41 relationship with a volunteer mentor. The mentor will be  
42 professionally trained to provide the personal and emotional support  
43 necessary for the at-risk student to achieve academic success and  
44 future successful functioning adult in society. Under the program, each  
45 student will meet with a mentor one day per week for a period of at  
46 least one hour unless the district determines that some other schedule

**A1760 PAYNE, DORIA**

4

1 would be of greater benefit to the student.

2 The bill directs the Commissioner of Education to develop and  
3 administer the program in each school district in the State. The  
4 commissioner is to consult with the Community Agencies Corporation  
5 of New Jersey and other public and private nonprofit organizations  
6 providing youth mentoring services in the development, operation and  
7 administration of the program.

8 Under the provisions of the bill, each school district is to provide  
9 to the commissioner an outline of a proposed program which must  
10 include, but not be limited to: information on the number and grade  
11 level of the at-risk students who will participate in the program; the  
12 process of student referral to the program; the selection criteria for  
13 student participants which must include the identification of students  
14 who are not successfully meeting the core curriculum content  
15 standards and district standards of behavior; the procedure for the  
16 identification and selection of adult mentors; the identification of any  
17 public and private nonprofit organizations that will assist the district  
18 in providing mentoring services; and the process which will be utilized  
19 to match students to mentors.

20 School districts that are eligible to receive demonstrably effective  
21 program aid under section 18 of P.L.1996 c.138 (C.18A:7F-18) shall  
22 utilize that aid to finance the costs associated with the program. The  
23 commissioner shall identify other State or federal funds available for  
24 services for at-risk students to fund the mentoring program in school  
25 districts that are not eligible to receive demonstrably effective program  
26 aid.

27 The commissioner is also directed to implement a plan to collect  
28 data on the effectiveness of the program in meeting the needs and  
29 conditions of students which place them at-risk of academic and social  
30 failure. The plan is to include a system to track student participants  
31 to determine if those students successfully complete the school year  
32 and assume a meaningful and positive role in society.

# ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### ASSEMBLY, No. 1760

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 4, 1998

The Assembly Education Committee favorably reports Assembly Bill No. 1760.

This bill establishes an At-Risk Youth Mentoring Program in the Department of Education and directs the commissioner to develop and administer the program within all local school districts of the State. The commissioner is to consult with the Community Agencies Corporation of New Jersey and other public and private nonprofit organizations providing youth mentoring services in the development and operation of the program. The program is to provide for the training of volunteer mentors and for the assignment of mentors to at-risk students enrolled in each district.

Under the bill's provisions, each school district is to provide the commissioner with an outline of a proposed mentoring program which includes information on the number and grade level of the at-risk students who will participate in the program; the process of student referral to the program; the selection criteria for student participants which shall include the identification of students who are not successfully meeting the core curriculum content standards and standards of district behavior; the procedures for the identification and selection of adult mentors and the process which will be utilized to match students to mentors; and the identification of any public or private nonprofit organizations that will assist the district in providing mentoring services. Under the program a student will meet with a mentor at least one day per week for at least one hour unless the district determines that some other schedule would be more beneficial.

School districts that are eligible to receive demonstrably effective program aid under the "Comprehensive Educational Improvement and Financing Act of 1996," (CEIFA) P.L.1996, c.138, are directed to use that aid to finance the costs of the mentoring program. The commissioner is to identify sources of State or federal funding which may be available to fund the program in districts which do not qualify for such aid.

Finally, the commissioner is directed to implement a plan to collect data on the effectiveness of the mentoring program in addressing the needs and conditions of students which put them at risk of academic and social failure. The plan must include a system to track student participants to determine if they successfully complete the school year and meet the core curriculum content standards.

# ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **ASSEMBLY, No. 1760**

with Assembly committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 14, 1998

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1760, with committee amendments.

Assembly Bill No. 1760, as amended, establishes an At-Risk Youth Mentoring Program in the Department of Education. The Commissioner of Education shall consult with the Community Agencies Corporation of New Jersey and other public and private nonprofit organizations providing youth mentoring services in the development and operation of the program. The program shall provide for the training of volunteer mentors and for the assignment of mentors to at-risk students enrolled in participating districts.

The bill requires each school district eligible to receive demonstrably effective program aid under section 18 of P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-18) to provide the commissioner with an outline of a proposed mentoring program that includes information on the number and grade level of the at-risk students who will participate in the program; the process of student referral to the program; the selection criteria for student participants which shall include the identification of students who are not successfully meeting the core curriculum content standards and standards of district behavior; the procedures for the identification and selection of adult mentors and the process which will be utilized to match students to mentors; and the identification of any public or private nonprofit organizations that will assist the district in providing mentoring services. Under the program, a student will meet with a mentor at least one day per week for at least one hour unless the district determines that some other schedule would be more beneficial.

School districts that are eligible to receive demonstrably effective program aid under the "Comprehensive Educational Improvement and Financing Act of 1996," P.L.1996, c.138, are directed to use that aid to finance the costs of the mentoring program. The commissioner shall expand the program to districts that are not eligible to receive demonstrably effective program aid upon identifying other State or federal funds available for services for at-risk students.

Finally, the bill directs the commissioner to implement a plan to

collect data on the effectiveness of the mentoring program in addressing the needs and conditions of students which put them at risk of academic and social failure. The plan must include a system to track student participants to determine if they successfully complete the school year and meet the core curriculum content standards.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services has estimated that there will be no additional costs to the State from the enactment of this bill; departmental responsibilities can be performed by existing staff. With respect to local school districts, the \$187.3 million appropriated for FY1999 for demonstrably effective program aid is authorized for the support of local training and program implementation.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

These amendments limit the requirement to participate in the mentoring program to districts that are eligible to receive demonstrably effective program aid under section 18 of P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-18). The amendments require the commissioner to expand the program to include districts that are not eligible to receive demonstrably effective program aid upon identifying other State or federal funds for at-risk students available to fund the mentoring program.

The amendments also require that a mentor be subject to criminal history record check prior to participating in the program. The cost of the record check shall be paid by the district.

STATEMENT TO  
ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 1760**

with Assembly Floor Amendments  
(Proposed By Assemblyman PAYNE)

ADOPTED: MARCH 15, 1999

These floor amendments provide a specific funding source for the \$750,000 appropriation which this bill contains. The amendments transfer \$750,000 from the Work First New Jersey - Work Activities account in the Department of Human Services to the Workforce Development Partnership Fund in the Department of Labor. The appropriation to the At-Risk Youth Mentoring Grant Fund established under this bill would then be made from the Workforce Development Partnership Fund. The transfer of funds from Work First New Jersey to the Workforce Development Partnership Fund is an appropriate one due to the fact that funds had previously been transferred from the partnership fund to Work First New Jersey pursuant to the FY 1999 Appropriations Act.

The amendments also provide that if the State receives federal funds sufficient to cover all or a portion of the \$750,000 appropriation made under the bill, then those federal funds will be deposited in the Workforce Development Partnership Fund to reimburse the fund for the bill's appropriation.



[Corrected Copy]

**FISCAL NOTE**

**ASSEMBLY, No. 1760**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**208th LEGISLATURE**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 18, 1998

Assembly Bill No. 1760 of 1998 establishes an At-Risk Youth Mentoring Program in the Department of Education and directs the commissioner to develop and administer the program within all local school districts of the State. The commissioner is required to consult with the Community Agencies Corporation of New Jersey and other public and private nonprofit organizations providing youth mentoring services in the development and operation of the program. Under the bills' provision, each district is to provide the commissioner with an outline of its proposed program. Under its program, each local school district must select and provide training to individuals who volunteer to act as mentors. The district will assign students in need of such services to a mentor with whom the student shall meet for a minimum of one hour, one day per week.

The bill directs the commissioner to implement a plan to collect data on the mentoring program's effectiveness in addressing the factors which put students at risk of academic and social failure. The plan must include a system to track student participants to determine if they successfully complete the school year and meet the core curriculum content standards. The bill authorizes the use of demonstrably effective program aid, provided under section 18 of the "Comprehensive Educational Improvement and Financing Act of 1996," P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-18), to support mentor training and other local district costs associated with the program, and directs the commissioner to identify other Federal or State funds to support the costs in districts not eligible to receive such aid.

The Office of Legislative Services estimates that, given the current staffing levels within the Department of Education, the provisions of this bill may be implemented without incurring any additional cost to the State. With respect to local school district costs, the \$187.3 million appropriated in FY 1999 for demonstrably effective

A1760

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program aid is authorized for the support of local training and program implementation.

This fiscal note has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67.

**SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 1220  
(FIRST REPRINT)**

To the Senate:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning the Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1220 (First Reprint) with my recommendations for reconsideration.

Summary of Bill

This bill establishes a mentoring program for at-risk public school students to be administered by the Department of Labor. The program is designed to help at-risk youth who lack a relationship with a caring and responsible adult to develop a relationship with a volunteer mentor. The mentor will be trained to provide the personal and emotional support necessary for the at-risk student to achieve academic success and a successful future as an adult.

Within the Department of Labor, a separate grant fund to be known as the "At-Risk Youth Mentoring Grant Fund" is created by the bill. Educational foundations would be eligible to apply for a grant of \$25,000 in order to pay the expenses associated with the operation and maintenance of a mentoring program. An educational foundation is defined as a private non-profit organization created by or on behalf of a board of education that has as its principle purpose the operation of a mentoring program. During the first year of implementation of the program, only educational foundations operating in Abbott districts would be eligible to receive a grant.

An educational foundation is required to submit an application for a grant to the Commissioner of Labor ("Commissioner") for his review. The application would provide such information as the name of the educational foundation; a description of the activities of the program; the process of student referral to the program; the procedure for the identification and selection of adult mentors; and the process which would be utilized to match students to mentors.

Under the program, each mentor would commit to participate in the program for a minimum of one calendar year. A program could not exceed 25 students per school building, unless the Commissioner approves exceeding such a limit.

The bill provides that a mentor shall undergo a criminal history record check in accordance with the procedures established in the act. The school district is required to bear the costs of the record check.

The bill also creates a joint legislative committee to be known as the Joint Committee on Mentoring. The joint committee would be comprised of 12 members, six members from each House, appointed by the majority presiding officers and minority leaders. The joint committee would have oversight responsibility with regard to the mentoring grants and the mentoring program, and would make such recommendations for the revision of the program as the amount of the grants and the limits on the number of participating students.

An educational foundation must submit a report on the progress of its mentoring program to the joint committee on or before May 1 of each year.

Beginning in the second year full-year following approval of the substitute, a school district could fund a mentoring program with Demonstrably Effective Program Aid provided under the provisions of the Comprehensive Education Improvement and Financing Act.

The bill appropriates \$750,000 from the Work First New Jersey - Work Activities account in the Department of Human Services to the Workforce Development Partnership Fund in the Department of Labor to implement the provisions of the bill. If the State receives federal funds sufficient to cover all or a portion of the \$750,000 appropriated for the program, the federal funds are required to be deposited in the Workforce Development Partnership Fund to reimburse that fund for the appropriation made pursuant to the bill.

#### B. Recommended Action

I applaud the sponsors of this legislation, especially the late Senator Wynona Lipman, for their efforts to establish a mentoring program for at-risk youth. Our children are our most important resource and every effort should be made to give them the skills they need to succeed. Mentors can act as role models and teach children these skills. Because I appreciate the value of mentoring, I am returning the bill with several recommendations to enhance the program's effectiveness.

First, I recommend that the bill be amended to create a three-year pilot program to

allow for evaluation of the program's success and its role in relation to other public and private mentoring programs that are currently offered to at-risk youth. For example, the Department of Human Services currently provides mentoring services to at-risk youth through the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Initiative. I recommend, therefore, that the bill be amended to provide that the Commissioner, on or before January 1 of the third year of the program, submit a report to the Joint Committee on Mentoring and to the Legislature on the implementation of the program. The report shall include a recommendation on whether the program should be continued. If the Legislature does not act on the recommendation by the adoption of a concurrent resolution within 60 days of the Commissioner's submission of the report, the Commissioner's recommendation regarding continuation of the program will take effect following the completion of the third year of the program.

Further, I believe that the mentoring programs should use existing community resources. I recommend, therefore, that the mentoring programs be designed to utilize public and private community organizations that provide employment, mental health, substance abuse, and family planning services to provide training for mentors and services for the at-risk youth served by the mentoring programs. Additionally, I recommend that the definition of "educational foundation" be broadened to allow a variety of non-profit organizations to provide mentoring services, including non-profit organizations that are not formed by school districts but have experience in providing mentoring services.

In order to provide for the effective use of available funds, I suggest that the Department of Labor have the authority to provide grants of up to \$50,000 instead of \$25,000. Additionally, I recommend that the maximum amount of students able to be served by a program be increased from 25 to 50 students. These changes will allow more students to be served by an individual program and encourage a more efficient use of funds because fewer resources will be spent on administrative costs associated with the creation of additional programs.

Providing quality mentoring programs for the at-risk youth impacted by this bill is essential. To further that goal, I recommend that applicants be required to submit

information regarding an implementation schedule for the program, a plan for supervision of the program, a training plan, and a plan for quality assurance and evaluation. Also, I recommend that the bill be amended to require applicants to submit a letter of commitment from the school district defining agreements to provide mentoring services for at-risk students. It is essential that a mentoring program have a good working relationship with its respective school district for the program to succeed.

In order to implement the program successfully, the Department of Labor must have appropriate oversight authority. I suggest, therefore, that the bill be clarified to provide that the role of the Joint Committee on Mentoring is to evaluate the success of the pilot program. The Joint Committee and the Legislature will base their evaluation on annual reports submitted by the mentoring programs and on the final report to be submitted by the Department of Labor.

Regarding funding of the At-Risk Youth Mentoring Grant Fund ("Fund"), I recommend that the federal funding reimbursement provision be amended to provide that in lieu of funding the At-Risk Youth Mentoring Grant Fund from the Department of Human Services' Work First New Jersey Activities account, federal funds available to the Department of Labor may be utilized for this program. The bill currently reimburses the Department of Labor's Workforce Development Partnership Fund if federal funds are available.

An additional funding issue that must be addressed pertains to the use of Demonstrably Effective Program Aid ("DEPA") monies. School districts already have dedicated DEPA funds to a variety of important worthwhile programs. I recommend that subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Education, DEPA funds be used as a supplement to grants provided pursuant to the bill. An application to use DEPA funds could only be made and approved when the costs of the mentoring program exceed the mentoring grant provided under the bill and when the district, in collaboration with the educational foundation, has made every reasonable effort to obtain funding from other sources.

Finally, I recommend two technical changes to the bill. First, the bill requires school districts to pay the cost of a criminal background check for a mentor. The educational

foundation administers the mentoring program, therefore, I recommend that the educational foundation be responsible for the cost of criminal background checks. Second, the bill incorrectly references Neptune City instead of Neptune Township as an Abbott school district. I recommend that “Abbott district” be properly defined to include both Neptune Township and Plainfield and that the reference to Plainfield and Neptune City be removed from the bill.

Therefore, I herewith return the Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1220 (First Reprint) and recommend that it be amended as follows:

Page 2, Section 2, Line 22:

Before ““Commissioner”” insert ““Abbott district”” means one of the 28 urban districts in district factor groups A and B specifically identified in the appendix to Raymond Abbott, et al. v. Fred G. Burke, et al. decided by the New Jersey Supreme Court on June 5, 1990 (119 N.J.287, 394) or any other district classified as a special needs district under the “Quality Education Act of 1990,” P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-1 et al.);”

Page 2, Section 2, Line 25:

After “education” insert “or a non-profit organization that has experience in the establishment of mentoring programs or the provision of services to at-risk youth”

Page 2, Section 2, Line 25-26:

Delete “and that has as its principle purpose the operation of a mentoring program”

Page 2, Section 3, Line 36:

After “with” insert “the Department of Human Services, the Department of Education and other appropriate State agencies regarding the development, operation and administration of the program. The commissioner shall also consult with”

Page 2, Section 3, Line 38:

Delete “in the development, operation and administration of the program”

Page 2, Section 3, Line 40:

Before “and” insert “through local collaborative partnerships between the school district, the educational foundation and other community based organizations”

Page 2, Section 3, Line 41:

Before “The” insert “The program shall also provide for collaboration with public and private organizations that provide comprehensive health, employment, and

social services to youth.”

Page 3, Section 4, Line 6:

After “grant” insert “of a minimum”

Page 3, Section 4, Line 7:

After “\$25,000” insert “up to a maximum of \$50,000, depending on the size of the program,”

Page 3, Section 4, Line 10:

Delete “or in the school districts of Plainfield or Neptune City”

Page 3, Section 5, Line 17:

After “foundation” insert “if applicable”

Page 3, Section 5, Lines 17-18:

Delete “any request to exceed the prescribed limit on the number of student participants;”

Page 3, Section 5, Line 25:

After “mentors;” insert “an implementation schedule; a plan for supervision of the program; a training plan; a plan for quality assurance and evaluation;”

Page 3, Section 5, Line 26:

After “mentors.” insert “An educational foundation shall also submit with its application a letter of commitment defining agreements to provide mentoring services for at-risk public school students in its respective school district. Preference may be given to applicants that have prior experience in the establishment and oversight of mentoring programs and the provision of services to at-risk youth.”

Page 3, Section 6, Line 35:

After “not” insert “serve less than 25 students nor”

Page 3, Section 6, Line 35:

Delete “25” and insert “50”

Page 3, Section 6, Line 35:

Delete “per school building”

Page 3, Section 6, Line 36:

Delete “The”

Page 3, Section 6, Lines 37-42:

Delete in entirety

Page 4, Section 7, Line 1:

Delete “district” and insert “educational foundation”

Page 4, Section 8, Line 9:

Delete “The”

Page 4, Section 8, Lines 10-20:

Delete in entirety

Page 4, Section 9, Line 22:

Before “An” insert “a.”

Page 4, Section 9, Line 22:

Delete “a” insert “an annual”

Page 4, Section 9, Line 23:

Before “joint” insert “department and to the”

Page 4, Section 9, Line 27:

Before “and” insert “the utilization of grant funds,”

Page 4, Section 9, Line 28:

After “program.” insert “The department may establish additional reporting requirements as necessary.”



Page 4, Section 9, Line 29:

Insert “b. On or before January 1 of the third year of the program, the commissioner shall report to the Governor, the joint committee, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the General Assembly, and the Minority Leaders of the Senate and the General Assembly on the effectiveness and implementation of the program. The report shall include a recommendation on whether the program should be continued. If the Legislature does not act on the recommendation by the adoption of a concurrent resolution within 60 days of the commissioner’s submission of the report, then the commissioner’s recommendation regarding continuation of the program shall take effect following the expiration of the third year of the program.”

Page 4, Section 10, Line 30:

Delete “Beginning in the second full-year following approval of”

Page 4, Section 10, Line 31:

Delete “P.L. , c. (C. )(now pending before the Legislature as this bill), a”

Page 4, Section 10, Line 32:

Before “school” insert “A”

Page 4, Section 10, Line 32:

After “may” insert “apply to the Commissioner of Education for approval to use”

Page 4, Section 10, Line 32:

Delete “fund a mentoring program with”

Page 4, Section 10, Line 34:

After “(C.18A:7F-18)” insert “to supplement a grant provided pursuant to the provisions of this act”

Page 4, Section 10, Line 34:

After “.” insert “An application may be made and approved only when the costs of a mentoring program exceed the amount of a grant and when the district, in collaboration with the educational foundation, has made every reasonable effort to obtain funding from other sources.”

Page 4, Section 10, Line 35:

After “program.” insert “The Commissioner of Education may require that Abbott district mentoring programs receiving Demonstrably Effective Program Aid meet applicable whole school reform requirements.”

Page 5, Section 13, Line 3:

Delete “If the State receives federal funds sufficient to cover all or a” insert “In lieu of funding the At Risk Youth Mentoring Grant Fund from the Department of Human Services’ Work First New Jersey Activities account, federal funds available to the Department of Labor may be utilized for this program.”

Page 5, Section 13, Lines 4-7:

Delete

Respectfully,

Christine Todd Whitman  
Governor

Attest:

Richard S. Mroz  
Chief Counsel to the Governor

*Office of the Governor*  
**NEWS RELEASE**

CONTACT: Gene Herman  
609-777-2600

RELEASE: September 23, 1999

Gov. Christie Whitman today conditionally vetoed the following pieces of legislation:

**SCS For S-1220**, sponsored by the late Senator Wynona M. Lipman (D- Essex/Union) and Senator Joseph A. Palaia (R-Monmouth) and Assembly Members William D. Payne (D-Essex/Union) and Joseph V. Doria, Jr. (D-Hudson), establishes an at-risk youth mentoring program for public school students in the Department of Labor (DOL). The bill appropriates \$750,000 from the work First New Jersey - Work Activities account in the Department of Human Services to the Workforce Development Partnership Fund in the DOL to implement the provisions of the bill.

The Governor commended the sponsors of the legislation, especially the late Senator Lipman, for their efforts to establish a mentoring program for at-risk youth. She said the recommendations in her conditional veto would enhance the program's effectiveness. The Governor recommended that the bill be amended to create a three-year pilot program to allow for evaluation of the program's success and its role in relation to other public and private mentoring programs that are currently offered to at-risk youth. She said the mentoring programs also should use existing resources. The Governor recommended that the programs be designed to utilize public and private community organizations that provide employment, mental health, substance abuse, and family planning services to provide training for mentors and services for the at-risk youth served by the mentoring program. In order to provide for the effective use of available funds, Gov. Whitman recommended that the DOL have the authority to provide grants of up to \$50,000 instead of \$25,000 and that the maximum number of students served by a program be increased from 25 to 50 students.

**S-2008**, sponsored by Senator Diane B. Allen (R-Burlington/Camden) and Assembly Member Guy R. Gregg (R-Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris), would have amended current law to reduce the surcharge levied annually on workers' compensation insurance policy holders and self-insured employers. The bill would have modified the assignment formula to reduce the estimate used to calculate the surcharge from 150% to 125% of the estimated cost of the program. Use of an overestimate ensures that moneys will be sufficient to cover any unanticipated claims against the fund. In her conditional veto, the Governor recommended limiting the assessment formula to 100% of estimated administrative costs and requiring the Commissioner of Labor to submit an informational copy of the assessment to the Joint Budget Oversight Committee. The Governor said her action will serve to reduce the financial burden on employers and avoid overfunding, while maintaining adequate reserves for benefit payments and administrative costs.

**S-912**, sponsored by Senators Joseph A. Palaia (R-Monmouth) and Martha W. Bark (R-Atlantic/Burlington/Camden) and Assembly Members Joseph J. Roberts, Jr. (D-Camden/Gloucester) and George E. Geist (R-Camden/Gloucester), would have authorized certain changes to the offices of the county fire marshals and allowed for the creation of arson investigation units. The bill would have amended current laws to require county fire marshals to conduct investigations pertaining to the

elimination of fire hazards. The bill would also have amended certain statutorily defined responsibilities of a county fire marshal that a freeholder board is authorized to approve.

In her conditional veto, the Governor said that after a unanimous vote on the bill in both the Senate and Assembly, the sponsors requested that she issue a conditional veto in order to allow the part time fire marshals that serve the state's smaller counties to have greater flexibility within the new mandates. She commended the sponsors for their work in amending existing law in order to more accurately reflect the role of county fire marshals. The Governor recommended amending the bill to allow the fire marshals to determine whether to conduct or assist in an investigation pertaining to the cause and origin of a fire when requested by the fire department having jurisdiction over it.

She also recommended changing the entity to whom the fire marshal reports from the entity with control over the executive functions of the county to an authority designated by that entity. Also, the Governor recommended limiting situations for which a fire marshal may be required to render coordination and control to those for which a fire department has responsibility by way of local ordinance.

**S-235**, sponsored by Senator James S. Cafiero (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland) and Assembly Members Nicholas Asselta (R- Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland) and John C. Gibson (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland), would have made certain changes in the requirements for an enforcement of cancellation of mortgages of record. Currently, when a mortgage is paid and satisfied, a mortgagee (lender) must request the mortgage be canceled as of record by the county recording officer (typically the county clerk). Upon payment of the requisite fee, the county clerk marks the mortgage cancelled and returns a copy to the mortgagee. The bill would have placed additional requirements upon the mortgagee/lender by mandating that the lender send the borrower the following three items at the same time the lender requests the mortgage cancellation from the county clerk: (1) the original mortgage noted marked "paid in full."; (2) a copy of the mortgage marked "canceled"; and (3) a copy of the mortgagee's letter to the county recording officer requesting that the mortgage be canceled of record.

In her conditional veto, the Governor said ensuring that New Jersey citizens and their families will be free from unwarranted clouds on the titles to their property is a worthy goal. However, she said, several financial institutions, lending institutions and the New Jersey State Bar Association have expressed concern that this bill will place New Jersey in a unique position by requiring lenders to send copies of canceled mortgages and original promissory notes to borrowers.

The Governor recommended the deletion of the requirement that mortgagees forward mortgages with the original note and a copy of the mortgage marked canceled. She recommended retaining the requirement that mortgagees forward to mortgagors copies of their transmittal letters requesting cancellation of mortgages by county recording officers.

**S-1492**, establishes a Physician-Dentist Fellowship and Education Program within the University of Medicine and Dentistry (UMDNJ) to provide health care to persons with developmental disabilities. The program will train physicians and dentists in providing medical and dental services to individuals with developmental disabilities to ensure that these services are accessible and available to such individuals. The training will occur at the residency, post-doctoral fellowship and continuing education

levels. The bill would have appropriated a \$5 million grant to the UMDNJ for the costs associated with the program.

The Governor commended the sponsors of the bill for addressing the serious health care needs of the developmentally disabled community by establishing the program. She said, however, that it was essential that the program be administered by an agency that has the expertise to effectively respond to the unique needs of the state's developmentally disabled community. She said the Department of Human Services, working through the Division of Developmental Disabilities, has significant experience in identifying those needs.

The Governor recommended that the funds to administer the program be appropriated to DHS to ensure that the DHS and UMDNJ work together to achieve the program's goals. In addition to taking advantage of DHS, Gov. Whitman said she believed it was important that the program utilize existing resources at UMDNJ, as well as other institutions, to assist in providing training to physicians and dentists in caring for the developmentally disabled. Further, the Governor said, she believed the state can make a significant commitment and accomplish the objectives of this program with a \$2.5 million appropriation rather than a \$5 million appropriation.

The bill was sponsored by Senators Jack Sinagra (R-Middlesex) and C. Louis Bassano (R-Essex/Union) and Assembly Members Nilsa Cruz- Perez (D-Camden/Gloucester) and Charlotte Vandervalk (R-Bergen).

*Office of the Governor*  
**NEWS RELEASE**

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RELEASE: December 17, 1999

Gov. Christie Whitman today signed the following piece of legislation:

**SCS for S-1220**, sponsored by the late Senator Wynona M. Lipman (D-Essex/Union) and Senator Joseph A. Palaia (R-Monmouth) and Assembly Members William D. Payne (D-Essex/Union) and Joseph V. Doria, Jr. (D-Hudson), establishes an at-risk mentoring pilot program for public school students in the Department of Labor (DOL). The bill appropriates \$750,000 from the Work First New Jersey -- Work Activities account in the Department of Human Services to the Workforce Development Partnership Fund in the DOL to implement provisions of the bill. The bill incorporates the recommendations Gov. Whitman made in her conditional veto of the bill on September 23.