

ASSEMBLY HOUSING COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1239

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: DECEMBER 5, 2022

The Assembly Housing Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1239.

This bill would require the Commissioner of Community Affairs, in consultation with the Commissioner of Corrections, to promulgate regulations establishing standards for publicly-supported transitional housing for former prisoners who are reentering the community. The standards are based on core features of the Fortune Academy, a model prisoner reentry transitional housing program in New York City, intended to help former prisoners successfully transition back into their communities.

The bill requires the regulations to include standards for:

- (1) ensuring the physical safety of the residents;
- (2) providing emergency and longer-term housing;
- (3) counseling and support services including substance abuse treatment, medical services, independent living skills training, education, career development, family services, and recreation;
- (4) personalized care management, including targeted care for residents who served long terms of incarceration; and
- (5) assisting residents obtain permanent housing.

As reported by the committee Assembly Bill No. 1239 is identical to Senate Bill No. 771, which was also reported by the committee on this date.