

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 4617

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 23, 2023

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4617 with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill requires the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development, in consultation with the Department of Health and healthcare stakeholders, to establish a program and standards to identify and recruit unemployed individuals to work in healthcare facilities. The identification process shall include:

(1) an evaluation of the practicality of training an individual for a specific position;

(2) the proximity of relevant positions to the individual's residence, and an individual's transportation options to the position; and

(3) what, if any, barriers exist preventing the individual from commencing work immediately for a specific position, even if the position is probationary until the individual completes relevant or required training.

The bill appropriates \$250,000 from the general fund for the purpose of funding training programs and providing resources for eligible individuals.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee proposes to amend the bill to specify that the \$250,000 appropriated from the General Fund for the purpose of funding training programs and providing resources for eligible individuals pursuant to the provisions of bill will be utilized for existing training programs that are funded by the Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services determines that the bill's provisions will increase State expenditures by up to \$250,000 in the first year the bill is in effect for the Department of Labor and Workforce Development to fund training programs and provide resources to eligible individuals in coordination with and using existing programs administered by the department. If the full

\$250,000 is not expended in the first year, the residual amount will be spent in subsequent fiscal years until the full \$250,000 is exhausted. In addition, the department, along with the Department of Health, will incur costs to identify and recruit unemployed individuals to work in healthcare facilities.