

ASSEMBLY, No. 4961

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 12, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

SYNOPSIS

Requires only female corrections officers be employed at Edna Mahan Correctional Facility.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** concerning corrections officers and supplementing Title 30
2 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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7 1. The Commissioner of Corrections shall require all
8 correctional police officers employed at a State correctional facility
9 for women to be female.

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11 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the fourth month
12 next following enactment, but the Commissioner of Corrections
13 may take any anticipatory action necessary to implement the
14 provisions of this bill.

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STATEMENT

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19 This bill requires all corrections officers employed at a
20 correctional facility for women in this State to be female.

21 The State's secure facility for female inmates currently is the
22 Edna Mahan Correctional Facility for Women in Clinton. After the
23 effective date of this bill, all corrections officers employed at Edna
24 Mahan would be required to be female.

25 This bill is in response to a series of convictions and indictments
26 of, and lawsuits against, male guards and other male staff members
27 employed in Edna Mahan for official misconduct, sexual contact,
28 and sexual assault of inmates housed in the facility. According to
29 the sponsor, these female inmates would be better served by female
30 guards.