

ASSEMBLY, No. 5753

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 12, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman NICHOLAS CHIARAVALLOTI

District 31 (Hudson)

Assemblywoman ANNETTE CHAPARRO

District 33 (Hudson)

Assemblyman PEDRO MEJIA

District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)

Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY

District 7 (Burlington)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywomen Lopez, McKnight and Reynolds-Jackson

SYNOPSIS

Requires request for proposal to establish project to evaluate and make recommendations for realignment of correctional facilities and other efficiency measures.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/14/2021)

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1 AN ACT concerning the establishment of a project to evaluate and
2 make recommendations for the realignment of correctional
3 facilities and other efficiency measures.

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

7
8 1. As used in P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as
9 this bill):

10 "Applicant" means an entity seeking to participate in the project
11 authorized in response to the request for proposal developed and
12 issued by the commissioner pursuant to section 2 of P.L. , c.
13 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

14 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Corrections.

15 "Project" means the project authorized in response to the request
16 for proposal developed and issued by the commissioner pursuant to
17 section 2 of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this
18 bill).

19 "Request for proposal" means the request for proposal developed
20 and issued by the commissioner pursuant to section 2 of P.L. , c.
21 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

22 "State correctional facility" means a State correctional facility or
23 facility listed in section 8 of P.L.1976, c.98 (C.30:1B-8).

24
25 2. a. The commissioner shall develop a request for proposal
26 for the purpose of determining eligibility for participation in a
27 project to evaluate and make recommendations for:

28 (1) the closure and consolidation of State correctional facilities;

29 (2) the repair of existing infrastructure at State correctional
30 facilities as well as cost-effective alternatives to any necessary
31 repairs;

32 (3) the reduction, reassignment, or both, of staff at State
33 correctional facilities;

34 (4) changes in the provision of benefits, including, but not
35 limited to, overtime pay to staff at State correctional facilities;

36 (5) the adoption of energy efficiency measures at State
37 correctional facilities; and

38 (6) the adoption of other efficiency measures to reduce
39 operational costs at State correctional facilities.

40 b. The commissioner shall establish guidelines for the approval
41 of an application to participate in the project. Upon developing a
42 request for proposal, the commissioner shall issue the request for
43 proposal in a form and manner determined by the commissioner.
44 The commissioner may approve more than one application for
45 participation in the project, provided that the total number of
46 approved applications collectively achieve the goals set forth in
47 subsection a. of section 2 of P.L. , c. (pending before the
48 Legislature as this bill).

- 1 c. The commissioner shall oversee, coordinate, and provide
2 assistance to the project approved and established pursuant to
3 P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill).
4
- 5 3. The request for proposal shall require each applicant to
6 submit to the commissioner the following information:
7 a. a statement of purpose for the applicant's participation in the
8 project, which statement shall demonstrate the intent of the
9 applicant to achieve the goals set forth in subsection a. of section 2
10 of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill);
11 b. an estimated budget of the applicant's participation in the
12 project, including a description of potential funding sources;
13 c. a description of the applicant's organizational experience,
14 research methodologies, resources, or unique combinations of these
15 that are integral factors for implementing the project; and
16 d. any additional information that the commissioner may deem
17 necessary.
18
- 19 4. The request for proposal shall give preference to applicants
20 that are nonprofit organizations and that have demonstrated
21 expertise in the development of prison downsizing strategies.
22
- 23 5. Upon approval of an application to participate in the project,
24 the commissioner shall require each approved applicant to enter into
25 an agreement with the commissioner, which agreement shall contain
26 but not be limited to:
27 a. a signed statement of cooperation and a description of the
28 roles and relationships of each entity involved in the project;
29 b. a clearly identified list of goals, performance standards,
30 benchmarks, or milestones of the proposed project, with
31 approximate dates as to when the goals, performance standards,
32 benchmarks, or milestones will be achieved and how they will be
33 evaluated, including a requirement that each approved applicant
34 shall report to the commissioner on the status of the applicant's
35 achievement of these goals, performance standards, benchmarks, or
36 milestones; and
37 c. a complete budget of the proposed project, including a
38 description of secured funds with proof, pending funds, and
39 potential future funding sources.
40
- 41 6. The commissioner shall submit a report, within 18 months of
42 the effective date of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as
43 this bill), to the Governor and to the Legislature, pursuant to section
44 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), on the results of the
45 establishment of the project. The commissioner shall post a copy of
46 the report on the official Internet website of the Department of
47 Corrections.

1 7. The commissioner may seek and accept gifts, donations,
2 grants, or loans from private or public sources for any purposes of
3 this act, including, but not limited to, any federal funding to be
4 provided for the purposes of the project, except that the
5 commissioner shall not accept a gift, donation, grant, or loan that is
6 subject to conditions that are inconsistent with any other law of this
7 State.

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9 8. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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14 This bill requires the Commissioner of Corrections
15 (commissioner) to develop a request for proposal for the purpose of
16 determining eligibility for participation in a project to evaluate and
17 make recommendations for: the closure and consolidation of State
18 correctional facilities; the repair of existing infrastructure at State
19 correctional facilities as well as cost-effective alternatives to any
20 necessary repairs; the reduction, reassignment, or both, of staff at
21 State correctional facilities; changes in the provision of benefits,
22 including, but not limited to, overtime pay to staff at State
23 correctional facilities; the adoption of energy efficiency measures at
24 State correctional facilities; and the adoption of other efficiency
25 measures to reduce operational costs at State correctional facilities.

26

27 The bill requires the commissioner to establish guidelines for its
28 approval of an application to participate in the project. Upon
29 developing a request for proposal, the commissioner is to issue the
30 request for proposal in a form and manner determined by the
31 commissioner. The commissioner may approve more than one
32 application for participation in the project, provided that the total
33 number of approved applications collectively achieve the purposes
34 of the project. The commissioner is to oversee, coordinate, and
35 provide assistance to the project.

36

37 The bill requires the request for proposal to require applicants
38 intending to participate in the project to submit to the commissioner
39 certain information as described in the bill. The request for
40 proposal is to give preference to applicants that are nonprofit
41 organizations and that have demonstrated expertise in the
42 development of prison downsizing strategies.

43

44 Upon the commissioner's approval of an application to
45 participate in the project, the commissioner is to require the
46 approved applicant to enter into an agreement with the
47 commissioner that is to contain certain information as described in
the bill.

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49 The bill requires the commissioner to report, within 18 months of
the effective date of the bill, to the Governor and the Legislature, on

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1 the results of the establishment of the project and post a copy of that
2 report on the Department of Correction's Internet website.

3 The bill authorizes the commissioner to seek and accept gifts,
4 donations, grants, or loans from private or public sources for any
5 purposes of this act, including, but not limited to, any federal
6 funding to be provided for the purposes of the project, except that
7 the commissioner is not to accept a gift, donation, grant, or loan that
8 is subject to conditions that are inconsistent with any other law of
9 this State.