

**ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION No. 92**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
219th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED JANUARY 27, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman ELIANA PINTOR MARIN**

**District 29 (Essex)**

**Assemblywoman YVONNE LOPEZ**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO**

**District 20 (Union)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

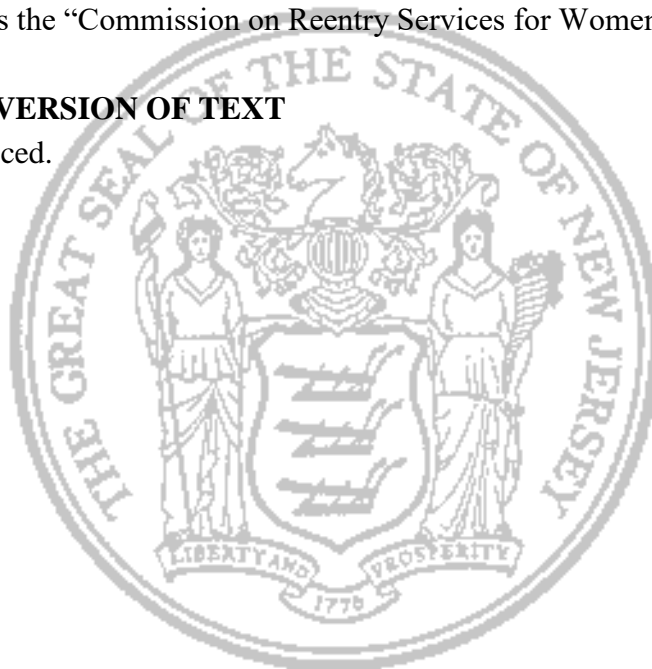
**Assemblywomen Reynolds-Jackson, Vainieri Huttie, Speight, Carter,  
Timberlake, Assemblyman Verrelli, Assemblywomen McKnight, Jasey  
and Swain**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes the “Commission on Reentry Services for Women.”

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/18/2020)**

1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** establishing the “Commission on  
2 Reentry Services for Women.”

3

4 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New*  
5 *Jersey (the Senate concurring):*

6

7 1. There is established the “Commission on Reentry Services  
8 for Women.” The commission shall consist of the following 15  
9 members:

10 a. six members to be appointed by the President of the Senate:

11 (1) a representative of a women’s rights organization;

12 (2) a representative of the New Jersey Coalition to End  
13 Domestic Violence;

14 (3) an attorney with expertise in prisoner reentry issues;

15 (4) a representative of an organization whose members provide  
16 mental health and substance use disorder treatment services for  
17 women;

18 (5) a representative of the employment and training industry,  
19 who by experience or training has expertise in prisoner reentry  
20 issues; and

21 (6) a physician with experience in women’s health issues and  
22 inmate health issues; and

23 b. five members to be appointed by the Speaker of the General  
24 Assembly:

25 (1) a representative of the Women’s Prison Association;

26 (2) a representative of a women’s healthcare organization;

27 (3) a representative of the Women’s Health Institute of Rutgers  
28 Robert Wood Johnson Medical School;

29 (4) a person with expertise in women’s health; and

30 (5) a representative of the law enforcement community; and

31 c. four members to be appointed as follows:

32 (1) two representatives of reentry programs, one of whom shall  
33 be appointed by the President of the Senate and one of whom shall  
34 be appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly; and

35 (2) two representatives from the business industry, one of whom  
36 shall be appointed by the President of the Senate and one of whom  
37 shall be appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly.

38

39 2. a. The commission shall organize within 30 days of the  
40 appointment of its members. The commission shall elect a  
41 chairperson from among its members, and the chairperson shall  
42 select a secretary who need not be a member of the commission.

43 b. The commission may meet at the call of its chairperson at  
44 times and in the places it may deem appropriate and necessary to  
45 fulfill its duties, and may conduct public hearings at any place it  
46 shall designate.

47 c. The commission may request at these hearings the  
48 appearance of officials of any State agency or political subdivision

1 of the State and may solicit testimony of interested groups and the  
2 general public.

3 d. The commission shall be entitled to call to its assistance and  
4 avail itself of the services of the employees of any State, county, or  
5 municipal department, board, bureau, commission, or agency as it  
6 may require and as may be available to it for its purposes, and to  
7 employ stenographic and clerical assistance and incur traveling and  
8 other miscellaneous expenses necessary to perform its duties, within  
9 the limits of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to it  
10 for its purposes.

11 e. The members of the commission shall serve without  
12 compensation, but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses  
13 incurred in the performance of their duties to the extent that funds  
14 are made available for that purpose.

15 f. Five members of the commission shall constitute a quorum  
16 for the transaction of business.

17

18 3. The commission shall examine issues relating to women  
19 prisoner reentry, including, but not limited to, identifying physical  
20 and psychological hardships endured while incarcerated that may  
21 impede successful reentry, identifying specific services that are  
22 necessary for successful reentry, identifying current obstacles to  
23 women prisoners receiving these services, and proposing solutions  
24 to remove these obstacles. The commission specifically shall  
25 examine:

26 a. the quality and quantity of female hygiene products  
27 disbursed to female prisoners;

28 b. how childbirth occurs for female prisoners while  
29 incarcerated;

30 c. the amount of time allowed for a mother to bond with her  
31 child birthed in prison;

32 d. technological advances and their utilization in visitation  
33 between mothers and their children, including, but not limited to,  
34 video conferencing;

35 e. whether the crime committed was related to a domestic  
36 violence situation in which the woman was the victim;

37 f. aligning formerly incarcerated females with essential  
38 support services in order to better care for their children;

39 g. the psychological profile of the female prisoner, including  
40 the psychological health of the female and methods to minimize  
41 psychological damage;

42 h. housing, including halfway houses and residential housing;

43 i. education and training;

44 j. employment opportunities and workforce development;

45 k. addiction and substance use disorder treatment, including  
46 but not limited to, drug treatment for inmates released from State  
47 and county correctional facilities, the length of this drug treatment,

1 and access to medication assisted treatment, appropriate 12-step  
2 programs, and intensive outpatient programs;

3 l. medical and mental health treatment;

4 m. access to legal assistance and current legal restrictions that  
5 create barriers to successful reentry;

6 n. integration of corrections, parole, and reentry, including the  
7 use of parole and supervision; and

8 o. coordination with faith-based services.

9  
10 4. The commission shall prepare and submit a report of its  
11 findings and recommendations, including legislative proposals, to  
12 the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164  
13 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature, no later than 18 months after the  
14 organizational meeting of the commission. The commission shall  
15 expire upon submission of this report.

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17 5. This concurrent resolution shall take effect immediately.

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20 STATEMENT

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22 This concurrent resolution establishes a 15-member  
23 "Commission on Reentry Services for Women." The commission is  
24 charged with examining issues relating to women prisoner reentry  
25 including, but not limited to, identifying physical and psychological  
26 hardships endured while incarcerated that may impede successful  
27 reentry, identifying specific services that are necessary for  
28 successful reentry, identifying current obstacles to female prisoners  
29 receiving these services, and proposing solutions to remove these  
30 obstacles.

31 The commission is to be comprised of the following members as  
32 appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the  
33 General Assembly: a representative of a women's rights  
34 organization; a representative of the New Jersey Coalition to End  
35 Domestic Violence; an attorney with expertise in prisoner reentry  
36 issues; a physician with experience in women's health issues and  
37 inmate health issues; a representative of an organization whose  
38 members provide mental health and substance use disorder  
39 treatment services for women; a representative of the employment  
40 and training industry, who by experience or training has expertise in  
41 prisoner reentry issues; a representative of the Women's Prison  
42 Association; a representative of a women's healthcare organization;  
43 a representative of the Women's Health Institute of Rutgers Robert  
44 Wood Johnson Medical School; a person with expertise in women's  
45 health; a representative of the law enforcement community; two  
46 representatives of reentry programs; and two representatives from  
47 the business industry.

1 The concurrent resolution specifically requires the commission  
2 to examine:

- 3 • the quality and quantity of hygiene products disbursed to  
4 female prisoners;
- 5 • how childbirth occurs for female prisoners while  
6 incarcerated;
- 7 • the amount of time allowed for a mother to bond with her  
8 child birthed in prison;
- 9 • technological advances and their utilization in visitation  
10 between mothers and their children, such as video conferencing;
- 11 • women whose crimes were related to a domestic violence  
12 situation in which they were the victim;
- 13 • aligning formerly incarcerated females with essential  
14 support services in order to better care for their children;
- 15 • the psychological profile of the female prisoner, including  
16 the psychological health of female prisoners and methods to  
17 minimize psychological damage;
- 18 • housing, including halfway houses and residential housing;
- 19 • education and training;
- 20 • employment opportunities and workforce development;
- 21 • addiction and substance use disorder treatment, including  
22 drug treatment for inmates released from State and county  
23 correctional facilities; length of drug treatment and access to  
24 medication assisted treatment, appropriate 12-step programs, and  
25 intensive outpatient programs;
- 26 • medical and mental health treatment;
- 27 • access to legal assistance and current legal restrictions that  
28 create barriers to successful reentry;
- 29 • integration of corrections, parole, and reentry, including the  
30 use of parole and supervision; and
- 31 • coordination with faith-based services.

32 The commission is to prepare and submit a report of its findings  
33 and recommendations, including legislative proposals, to the  
34 Governor and the Legislature no later than 18 months after the  
35 commission organizes. The commission is to expire upon  
36 submission of the report.