

SENATE, No. 3358

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 12, 2021

Sponsored by:

Senator NELLIE POU

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

SYNOPSIS

Requires DCA to establish standards for prisoner reentry transitional housing.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/24/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning prisoner reentry transitional housing and
2 supplementing Title 52 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 Community Affairs, in consultation
8 with the Commissioner of Corrections, shall promulgate rules and
9 regulations, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"
10 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), that establish standards for
11 prisoner reentry transitional housing supported by public funds.
12 The regulations shall establish standards for the following:

- 13 a. ensuring the physical safety of the residents;
14 b. providing emergency and longer-term housing;
15 c. counseling and support services to assist residents
16 successfully transition back into the community, including
17 substance abuse treatment, medical services, independent living
18 skills training, education, career development, family services, and
19 recreation;
20 d. personalized care management, including targeted care for
21 residents who served long terms of incarceration; and
22 e. assisting residents obtain permanent housing.

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24 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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27 STATEMENT

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

38 The regulations would have to include standards for the
39 following:

- 40 (1) ensuring the physical safety of the residents;
41 (2) providing emergency and longer-term housing;
42 (3) counseling and support services to assist residents
43 successfully transition back into the community, including
44 substance abuse treatment, medical services, independent living
45 skills training, education, career development, family services, and
46 recreation;

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- 1 (4) personalized care management, including targeted care for
- 2 residents who served long terms of incarceration; and
- 3 (5) assisting residents obtain permanent housing.