

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2036

Session of
1986

INTRODUCED BY PISTELLA, MANDERINO, PIEVSKY, IRVIS, MICHLOVIC,
VEON, CARN, STEWART, KUKOVICH, OLIVER, KOSINSKI, ACOSTA,
TRUMAN, ROEBUCK, DOMBROWSKI, FEE, STUBAN, SALOOM, COWELL,
GALLAGHER, DeLUCA, CAPPABIANCA, BALDWIN, SHOWERS, PRESTON,
COHEN, FATTAH, LINTON, WIGGINS, JOSEPHS, BARBER, DEAL,
GRUITZA, COLAFELLA, ITKIN, FOX, WASS, COY, RAYMOND, BUNT,
R. C. WRIGHT, DURHAM, PRESSMANN AND AFFLERBACH, JANUARY 27,
1986

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, JANUARY 27, 1986

AN ACT

1 Promoting the hiring of welfare recipients for entry-level
2 positions in State government; providing for the
3 establishment of a public service training program and a
4 State-related employment training fund for welfare
5 recipients; providing for grants to State contractors and
6 providers of services; and making appropriations.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Legislative findings and declaration of policy.

10 (a) Findings.--The General Assembly finds and declares that:

11 (1) The Commonwealth expends millions of dollars
12 annually to provide services for Pennsylvania citizens,
13 particularly the elderly, the sick and the mentally or
14 physically handicapped.

15 (2) These expenditures directly and indirectly create
16 jobs for many Pennsylvanians.

17 (3) At the same time, thousands of needy individuals and

families are dependent on cash welfare assistance because they lack adequate job skills and employment opportunities.

(4) It is in the public interest to assist welfare recipients to attain economic self-sufficiency, thus saving taxpayers money.

(b) Declarations.--Therefore, it is the policy of this Commonwealth to:

(1) Wherever possible, make appropriate entry-level jobs in State government available to recipients of cash welfare assistance, and provide the training and support services needed by these individuals to successfully perform these jobs.

(2) Where State-funded services are provided to Pennsylvania citizens through contractual or reimbursement arrangements with third parties, encourage such service providers to offer appropriate entry-level positions to recipients of cash welfare assistance, and assist third-party service providers to train assistance recipients for these positions by granting funds to defray the cost of necessary training and support services.

Section 2. Special efforts to recruit for entry-level positions.

Each Executive Department of the Commonwealth shall review its work force on a monthly basis and identify all entry-level positions. Each department shall notify the Department of Public Welfare when such vacancies occur and shall consider welfare recipients along with other applicants for these positions. The Department of Public Welfare shall immediately make all county boards of assistance aware of such vacancies and shall insure that county boards of assistance post notice of the availability

1 of such positions on a timely basis in a place which is readily
2 accessible to applicants for and recipients of public
3 assistance. The Civil Service Commission shall also notify the
4 Department of Public Welfare when entry-level positions are
5 available in the Commonwealth.

6 Section 3. Establishment of public service training program.

7 The Governor shall initiate a public service training program
8 which will prepare welfare recipients for entry-level positions
9 in State-operated facilities, including, but not limited to,
10 mental health facilities, State centers for the mentally
11 retarded, nursing homes, State general hospitals, youth
12 facilities, correctional facilities, State-owned or operated
13 educational facilities, State parks and any other facility
14 operated by Commonwealth agencies.

15 Section 4. Human services employment and training pilot
16 program.

17 (a) Establishment.--The Department of Public Welfare shall
18 establish a human services employment and training pilot program
19 by annually making available grants to State contractors and
20 other third-party providers of service receiving substantial
21 State funds, for the purpose of providing training and support
22 services to welfare recipients hired for entry-level positions.
23 These grants may be made to hospitals, nursing homes, providers
24 of attendant care and homemaker services to the handicapped and
25 elderly, day-care centers, intermediate care facilities for the
26 mentally retarded, operators of community living arrangements
27 for the mentally retarded and mentally ill, and other applicable
28 service providers.

29 (b) Rules and regulations.--Within six months of the
30 effective date of this act, the department shall promulgate

1 rules and regulations needed to implement this section.

2 (c) Reports to General Assembly.--On or before January 30,
3 1987, and each year thereafter, the Department of Public Welfare
4 shall submit a report on the human services employment and
5 training pilot program to the General Assembly which shall
6 include the following:

7 (1) The names and addresses of all contractors who
8 received grant awards under the program.

9 (2) The amount of the grant awarded to each contractor.

10 (3) The number of welfare recipients receiving training
11 through each grant, the number of welfare recipients
12 completing the training and the number of trainees still
13 employed six months after completion of the training.

14 Section 5. Funding of the program.

15 (a) Appropriations.--The following funds, or as much thereof
16 as may be necessary, are hereby appropriated to carry out the
17 provisions of this act during the fiscal year July 1, 1986, to
18 June 30, 1987:

19 (1) To the Governor's Office:

20 For creation of a public service training program for
21 welfare recipients.....\$165,000.

22 (2) To the Department of Public Welfare:

23 For creation of a human services employment and
24 training pilot program to provide grants to State
25 contractors and other third-party providers of service
26 receiving substantial State funds for training welfare
27 recipients.....\$1,000,000.

28 (b) Future appropriations.--Any general or Federal funds
29 provided for the program in subsequent fiscal years shall be
30 appropriated in the general appropriations acts for the fiscal

- 1 years in amounts deemed appropriate by the General Assembly.
- 2 Section 6. Effective date.
- 3 This act shall take effect July 1, 1986.