

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 664

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 23, 2023

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 664.

This bill establishes the Second Chance Program within the Department of Labor and Workforce Development. The purpose of the program will be to provide real and lasting career opportunities through labor organizations for formerly incarcerated individuals, with the intent to reduce recidivism.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services concludes that the fiscal impact of this bill is indeterminate. The bill would establish the Second Chance Program for formerly incarcerated individuals. Under the direction of the State Employment Training Commission, the program would work with labor organizations to develop career opportunities for these individuals. The commission's purpose is to develop a State workforce investment policy, integrating various programs and using its authority to enter into agreements with State departments and commissions to administer and develop education, employment, and training programs. For comparative purposes, a similar program aimed at employment assistance, known as The Pre-Release Employment Navigation and Re-entry Services Program in the Department of Corrections, is funded at \$600,000 in FY 2023 by the Workforce Development Partnership Fund, and provides employment related services to individuals about to be released.