

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 1110

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
211th LEGISLATURE

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Watson Coleman and Assemblyman Eagler**

SYNOPSIS

Establishes Gang Land Security Task Force.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Law and Public Safety and Veterans' Affairs
Committee on March 1, 2004, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/17/2005)

1 AN ACT establishing a Gang Land Security Task Force.

2

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

5

6 1. There is established a Gang Land Security Task Force. The task
7 force shall consist of ¹[24] 26¹ members, to be appointed as follows:

8 a. ¹[Fourteen] Sixteen¹ members by the Governor, as follows:

9 (1) A representative of the New Jersey State Commission of
10 Investigation;

11 (2) A representative from one of the State's county prosecutor's
12 offices;

13 (3) A representative from one of the State's county sheriff's offices;

14 (4) Two representatives from the New Jersey County Jail Wardens'
15 Association, at least one of whom shall have experience in adult
16 corrections and at least one with experience in juvenile corrections;

17 (5) A representative from the New Jersey State Association of
18 Chiefs of Police;

19 (6) A member with training and experience in substance abuse
20 counseling;

21 (7) A member with training and experience in family and youth
22 counseling;

23 (8) A medical professional with expertise in the psychology of
24 aggressive behavior;

25 (9) Two representatives from community and faith based
26 organizations located within cities identified by law enforcement
27 officials as having significant gang-related activity;

28 (10) Two representatives of the general public who are between
29 the ages of 18 and 25 years, who reside in cities identified by law
30 enforcement officials as having significant gang-related activity;

31 ¹[and]¹

32 (11) A representative from the Drug Policy Alliance; ¹[and]

33 (12) A representative of the Police Institute of Rutgers University;
34 and

35 (13) A representative of the New Jersey Chapter of the East Coast
36 Gang Investigator's Association;¹

37 b. The Superintendent of ¹[the New Jersey]¹ State Police, ex-
38 officio, or his designee;

39 c. The Commissioner of ¹[the New Jersey Department of]¹
40 Corrections, ex-officio, or his designee;

41 d. The Commissioner of ¹[the New Jersey Department of]¹
42 Human Services, ex-officio, or his designee;

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Senate SLP committee amendments adopted March 1, 2004.

- 1 e. The Commissioner of ¹[the New Jersey Department of] ¹
2 Education, ex-officio, or his designee;
3 f. Two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the
4 Senate, no more than one of whom shall be of the same political party;
5 g. Two members of the General Assembly, appointed by the
6 Speaker of the General Assembly, no more than one of whom shall be
7 of the same political party;
8 h. The ¹[New Jersey State]¹ Attorney General, ex-officio, or his
9 designee; and
10 i. The Executive Director of the ¹[New Jersey]¹ Juvenile Justice
11 Commission, ex-officio, or his designee.
12

13 2. The members shall be appointed within three months of
14 enactment and shall, to the greatest extent practicable, have, by
15 education or experience, knowledge of gang activities in New Jersey
16 or law enforcement efforts to limit such activity. Any vacancy in the
17 membership of the task force shall be filled by appointment in the same
18 manner as the original appointment was made.

19 The task force shall organize as soon as possible after the
20 appointments of its members. The New Jersey State Attorney
21 General, or his designee, shall serve as the chairman of the task force
22 and shall appoint a secretary, who need not be a member of the task
23 force. The members shall select a vice chairman from among them.
24

25 3. The task force shall focus on adult and youth gangs identified as
26 having a presence in New Jersey and shall examine their activities and
27 the effect on the communities in which they operate. In conducting its
28 inquiry the task force shall, but is not limited to:

29 a. Invite the following individuals to attend the meetings of the
30 task force and request their participation and assistance in its
31 deliberations and the formation of its recommendations in accordance
32 with the provisions of section 6 of this act:

- 33 (1) United States Attorney General, or his designee;
34 (2) The Director of the United States Citizenship and Immigration
35 Services, or his designee;
36 (3) The Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or the
37 New Jersey special agent in charge as his designee;
38 (4) The Director of the United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
39 Firearms, and Explosives, or the New Jersey special agent in charge as
40 his designee; and
41 (5) The Administrator of the United States Drug Enforcement
42 Administration, or the New Jersey special agent in charge as his
43 designee;

44 b. Study intelligence gathering methods currently being used by
45 law enforcement agencies throughout the state in dealing with gangs
46 to determine the level of their effectiveness and research new

1 intelligence methods which could be used to help such agencies
2 develop a stronger understanding of gang activity in communities and
3 within the state's correctional and youth detention facilities;

4 c. Research the conditions that tend to foster the formation and
5 operation of gangs in communities and methods of preventing them
6 from taking hold and operating in neighborhoods in New Jersey; and

7 d. Consider the advantages and drawbacks of establishing an office
8 of gang land security within the Department of Law and Public Safety,
9 which should take into account, but not be limited to, the following
10 factors:

11 (1) The impact of gangs and their activities on the State and its
12 communities, and the benefits which would be realized if such activity
13 were reduced in New Jersey. This analysis should include, but not be
14 limited to, the impact on general public safety and the local and State
15 economies; and

16 (2) The anticipated cost of creating and operating such an office.
17

18 4. The task force shall be entitled to call to its assistance and shall
19 avail itself of the services of the employees of any State, county, or
20 municipal department, board, bureau, commission or agency as it may
21 require and as may be available to it for its purposes. The task force
22 shall further be entitled to employ counsel and stenographic and
23 clerical assistance and incur traveling and other miscellaneous
24 expenses as it may deem necessary to perform its duties, within the
25 limits of funds appropriated or otherwise made available for its
26 purposes.

27
28 5. The task force may conduct public hearings in furtherance of its
29 general purposes at such place or places as it shall designate, at which
30 it may request the appearance of officials or any federal, State, or
31 interstate department, board, bureau, commission, agency, or authority
32 and solicit the testimony or interested groups and the general public.
33

34 6. The task force shall report its progress to the Governor and the
35 Legislature no later than 90 days after its organization and shall report
36 its final proposal to the Governor and Legislature no later than 120
37 days after such organization. The final proposal shall outline a course
38 of action to:

39 a. Develop strong methods of intelligence gathering with respect
40 to gangs and their activities, including but not limited to the:

41 (1) Role of gangs in:

42 (a) Car theft rings and other fencing operations;

43 (b) Money laundering; and

44 (c) The trade of illegal firearms, illicit drugs, and other controlled
45 substances;

46 (2) Relationships between gang members and:

47 (a) Probationers, inmates, and parolees;

- 1 (b) Other criminal organizations; and
2 (c) Suppliers of illegal firearms, illicit drugs, and other controlled
3 substances; and
4 (3) The points of entry and methods used to transport illegal
5 firearms, illicit drugs, and other controlled substances into New Jersey;
6 ¹[and]¹
7 b. Prevent gangs from establishing themselves in or continuing to
8 operate in New Jersey ¹; and
9 c. Facilitate the productive re-integration into society from
10 incarceration or supervision of current, former and potential gang
11 members¹.
12
13 7. The members of the task force shall serve without
14 compensation, but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred
15 in the performance of their duties. Any reimbursement of members
16 shall be within the limits of funds appropriated to otherwise made
17 available to the task force for its purposes.
18
19 8. This act shall take effect immediately, and shall expire upon the
20 filing of the task force's report to the Governor and Legislature in
21 accordance with the provisions of section 6 of this act.