

By Mr. Serra of Boston, petition of Emanuel G. Serra for legislation to ensure equitable service to welfare recipients under the job training partnership law. Human Services and Elderly Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Six.

AN ACT TO ENSURE EQUITABLE SERVICE TO WELFARE RECIPIENTS UNDER THE JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section 17 of Chapter 6A of the General Laws is hereby amend-
2 ed by inserting the following paragraphs after the second para-
3 graph: —
4 The governor shall appoint for membership on the state job
5 training coordinating council established under the job training
6 partnership act (29 U.S.C. § 1501 *et. seq.*): (a) at least three “econom-
7 ically disadvantaged” people, at least one of whom is a recipient of
8 benefits under the aid to families with dependent children program;
9 and (b) at least two representatives of community based organiza-
10 tions, at least one of whom shall be a director of a local community
11 action agency. Each private industry council established under the
12 job training partnership act shall include, if such persons are nomi-
13 nated: (a) at least three “economically disadvantaged” people
14 chosen from groups targeted by the private industry council for
15 priority service, at least one of whom is a recipient of benefits under
16 the AFDC program; (b) a representative of community-based
17 organization, with a recognized record of advocacy for recipients of
18 the aid to families with dependent children program. The governor
19 shall not approve a job training plan submitted by a private indus-
20 try council in accordance with section 105 of job training partner-
21 ship act (29 U.S.C. §1515) unless said plan: (a) contains a complete
22 and detailed procedure for assessing the child care and trans-
23 portation needs of each individual eligible to participate in job
24 training partnership act programs; and (b) contains a complete and
25 detailed assessment of the availability of government or privately

26 run programs. for the provision of free or subsidized child care and
27 transportation services to “economically disadvantaged” people in
28 the service delivery area; and (c) makes adequate and specific
29 provisions for meeting the transportation and child care needs of
30 participants as follows: 1) if free transportation is not already
31 available to any applicant or participant, the plan shall provide that
32 such services are made available at no cost to participants either by
33 reimbursement of expenses, advance payments, or the direct provi-
34 sion of such services at no cost to participants; and ii) if, for any
35 applicant or participant, free child care is not already available
36 from an appropriate agency, or “voucher” or “contract” child care
37 is not already available from the department of public welfare or
38 the department of social services, the plan shall provide for advance
39 payments or reimbursement to participants, in accordance with the
40 state-established sliding fee scale, to meet the costs of necessary
41 child care. No private industry council shall be required to spend
42 more than 10 percent of its title IIA funds to comply with this
43 subsection (c); and (d) provides that all other training-related
44 expenses not met through other sources shall be paid directly or by
45 reimbursement by the private industry council to program partici-
46 pants. No applicant for any program of training, education, or
47 work, shall be denied the opportunity to participate because of his
48 or her need for child care, transportation, or other supportive
49 services. The governor shall not approve any job training plan
50 submitted by a private industry council in accordance with section
51 105 of the job training partnership act (29 U.S.C. §1515) unless said
52 plan: (a) contains a complete and detailed assessment of the need
53 for literacy and “English as a second language” training among the
54 adult population eligible to participate in job training partnership
55 programs; and (b) contains a complete and detailed assessment of
56 the availability to economically disadvantaged people of literacy
57 and “English as a second language” training within the service de-
58 livery area; and (c) provides for a reasonable amount of funding for
59 adult literacy and “English as a second language” activities and
60 services among the eligible populations which is not likely to be
61 met by other providers of such services. No person shall be pre-
62 cluded from participating in any program of training, education,
63 or work because she or he has participated in a literacy or “English
64 as a second language” training or educational program sponsored
65 by the private industry council.