

CHAPTER 44

AN ACT establishing the Henry J. Raimondo New Jersey Legislative Fellows Program, supplementing chapter 11 of Title 52 of the Revised Statutes and making an appropriation.

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

C.52:11-79 Findings, declarations relative to Henry J. Raimondo New Jersey Legislative Fellows Program.

1. The Legislature finds and declares that:
 - a. graduate students in this State who have an interest in government, law, politics and public policy should have an opportunity to learn about and participate in State government and the legislative process;
 - b. the establishment of a Legislative Fellows Program to enable participation by these students will foster awareness and appreciation in younger citizens of this State of how laws are created, and encourage these students to be involved with State government throughout their careers;
 - c. a Legislative Fellows Program would serve the Legislature's need for staff assistance during the most demanding period of the legislative session; and
 - d. a Legislative Fellows Program would benefit legislative staff agencies' recruitment efforts for regular staff.

C.52:11-80 Henry J. Raimondo New Jersey Legislative Fellows Program.

2. There is established the Henry J. Raimondo New Jersey Legislative Fellows Program at the Eagleton Institute of Politics of Rutgers, The State University. Students enrolled in graduate programs of Rutgers University shall be selected to participate in the program as fellows.

C.52:11-81 Selection, assignment of fellows; stipend.

3. Eight fellows shall be selected each year pursuant to section 5 of this act, and shall be assigned to work with the New Jersey Legislature as follows: four Fellows shall be assigned to work in the Office of Legislative Services; one Fellow shall be assigned to work in the Senate Majority Office; one Fellow shall be assigned to work in the Senate Minority Office; one Fellow shall be assigned to work in the General Assembly Majority Office; and one Fellow shall be assigned to work in the General Assembly Minority Office. Each fellow shall receive a stipend during the period of internship with the Legislature.

C.52:11-82 Henry J. Raimondo New Jersey Legislative Fellows Program Advisory Committee.

4. There is established a Henry J. Raimondo New Jersey Legislative Fellows Program Advisory Committee, consisting of the following members: the Executive Director of the Office of Legislative Services; the Executive Director of the Senate Majority Office; the Executive Director of the Senate Minority Office; the Executive Director of the General Assembly Majority Office; the Executive Director of the General Assembly Minority Office; and five members of the Rutgers University faculty, to be appointed by the Director of the Eagleton Institute of Politics of Rutgers University.

C.52:11-83 Appointment of director.

5. The Director of the Eagleton Institute of Politics of Rutgers University shall appoint the director of the Henry J. Raimondo New Jersey Legislative Fellows Program, who shall administer the program and, with the aid of the advisory committee, recruit and select the fellows.

C.52:11-84 Tuition, fee support; matching appropriations.

6. Rutgers University shall provide tuition and fee support for the fellows for the academic year. The State shall appropriate funds in each fiscal year to finance the stipends provided to fellows pursuant to section 3 of this act in an amount equal to the annual tuition and fee support provided by Rutgers University in that academic year.

7. There is appropriated to the Legislature for the Henry J. Raimondo New Jersey Legislative Fellows Program from the General Fund the sum of \$60,000 to finance the stipends

of the fellows.

8. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved June 30, 2000.