

(H. B. 2813)

(No. 72)

(Approved July 23, 2007)

## **AN ACT**

To add a clause (i) to subsection (3) of Section 6.5 of Section 6 of Act No. 184 of August 3, 2004, as amended, known as the “Public Service Human Resources Administration Act of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,” in order to provide that trainings be offered to public employees on the correct vocabulary to be used when addressing persons with disabilities, through the Human Capital Development Division.

### **STATEMENT OF MOTIVES**

The Human Capital Development Division was created by virtue of Act No. 184, *supra*, and its purpose is to identify the need for the development of human resources in the public service, to plan, administer and evaluate coaching and training activities to satisfy the needs of the public service personnel, develop research programs in the field of human resources administration, advise Government agencies on the implementation of the positive results of the researches conducted for the betterment of human resources administration, to coordinate the scholarships program that the Government grants for the agencies and develop in coordination with the agencies a program for the payment of tuitions and plan in coordination with the agencies the granting of sabbatical leaves to pursue studies.

On the other hand, said Division offers many training and coaching activities for the personal and professional development of employees. It

also has personnel trained in the design, preparation and development of trainings in the various fields of human resources.

In view of the abovementioned, it is deemed reasonable that trainings on the use of the correct vocabulary when addressing persons with disabilities be offered to public employees through said Division. As set forth by the Office of the Advocate of Persons with Disabilities, it is imperative that these trainings be established so that the public employees who, due to their inherent functions must deal with public, have the sensibility needed to address this population.

Hundreds of persons with disabilities require government services on a daily basis and for the lack of knowledge of the people who deal with them, they feel underestimated. We firmly believe in the vocation of service that frames the work of these public officers; however, it is essential to offer them those tools that shall promote service with human kindness, sensibility and of great quality in the Government of Puerto Rico.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:**

Section 1.- A clause (i) is hereby added to subsection (3) of Section 6.5 of Section 6 of Act No. 184 of August 3, 2004, as amended, to read as follows:

“Section 6.5.- Trainings

- (1) ...
- (2) The Human Capital Development Division is hereby created in the public service as a part of the Office, to perform the functions indicated below:
  - (a) ...
    - (i) To offer trainings to public employees on the correct vocabulary to be used when addressing

persons with disabilities in coordination with the Office of the Advocate of Persons with Disabilities (OPPI, Spanish acronym).

...”

Section 2.- To fully comply with the provisions of this Act, the Office of Human Resources of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico is hereby empowered to promulgate the regulations it deems pertinent in coordination with the Office of the Advocate of Persons with Disabilities (OPPI, Spanish acronym). Said agencies shall a term of six (6) months to prepare said regulations.

Section 3.- This Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following Act No. 72 (H.B. 2813) of the 5<sup>th</sup> Session of the 15<sup>th</sup> Legislature of Puerto Rico:

**AN ACT** to add a clause (i) to subsection (3) of Section 6.5 of Section 6 of Act No. 184 of August 3, 2004, as amended, known as the “Public Service Human Resources Administration Act of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,” in order to provide that trainings be offered to public employees on the correct vocabulary to be used when addressing persons with disabilities, through the Human Capital Development Division,

has been translated from Spanish to English and that the English version is correct.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 14<sup>th</sup> of December of 2007.

Francisco J. Domenech  
Director