

***“Industries for the Blind, for the Mentally Retarded and Other Disabled  
Persons of Puerto Rico”***

Act No. 207 of May 14, 1948 as amended

(Contains amendments incorporated by:  
Reorganization Plan No. 4, 1950  
Act No. 87 of June 16, 1953  
Act No. 127 of June 24, 1968)

(Amendments non-incorporated:  
Act No. 47 of April 4, 2011)

For, the social and economic rehabilitation of the blind of Puerto Rico through the creation of opportunities for remunerated work; authorizing the Board for Vocational Education of the Department of Education of Puerto Rico to create a public corporation therefore and appropriating the sum of twenty four thousand (24,000) dollars for the effectuation of the purposes of this Act.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of Puerto Rico:*

**Section 1. — Statement of Motives. —**

It is the purpose of this Act to provide for the social and economic rehabilitation of the blind of Puerto Rico, by affording them opportunities for remunerated work. To that end there is hereby created a public corporation empowered to organize shops for the blind which shall be devoted to the production of commodities for sale to the public. The purpose of this Act is that both training and remunerated employment be given to the blind of Puerto Rico in the shops so established, and that the profit deriving from the commodities produced in the said shops be equitably distributed among the blind working in such shops, according to the rules promulgated for that purpose.

**Section 2. — [Public corporation; creation]. — (18 L.P.R.A. § 1025)**

To carry out the purposes of this Act there is hereby created a public corporation under the name of "Industries for the Blind, for the Mentally Retarded and Other Disabled Persons of Puerto Rico." The corporation shall be an instrumentality of the Government of Puerto Rico, annexed to the Department of the Family.

The Secretary of the Family shall be the President of the Corporation and shall be empowered to designate an officer or employee of said Department as Executive Director of the Corporation without additional compensation. The President of the Corporation may delegate in said officer or employee the necessary administrative powers for the proper

operation of the Corporation. To such effects he shall prescribe rules and regulations which shall be approved by the Governor. The power of the Corporation to borrow money may not be delegated. The loans that the Corporation may wish to make must be approved by the President of the Corporation and must be transacted through the Government Development Bank for Puerto Rico, in accordance with the provisions of Act No. 272 of May 15, 1945, as amended [7 L.P.R.A. §§ 581-594].

Said corporation shall have the power to establish and organize shops in San Juan and other towns of Puerto Rico, wherein training, remunerated employment and any other services convenient or necessary shall be afforded for the rehabilitation of the blind, of the mentally retarded or of persons with other mental or physical handicaps which constitute obstacles to their occupational capacity, residing in Puerto Rico. It shall have the power to determine the manner and scope of the operation of the business and activities of the corporation; shall fix by regulation the physical or mental handicaps under this act, the policies for the operation of the shops, the employment, compensation, profit payments and other services of rehabilitation to persons working in such shops, the sale to the public of the articles produced in said shops and any other necessary matters of business. It may sue and be sued, may borrow money and shall enjoy the same rights and have the same duties and privileges as private corporations under the laws of Puerto Rico.

**Section 3. — [Special Fund]. — (18 L.P.R.A. § 1026)**

The sum of forty-four thousand (44,000) dollars is hereby appropriated to the public corporation "Industries for the Blind, for the Mentally Retarded and for Other Disabled Persons of Puerto Rico" from any available funds in the Treasury of Puerto Rico not otherwise appropriated, to carry out the purposes of this Act. The said sum shall be transferred to a special fund to be known as "Special Fund of the Public Corporation, Industries for the Blind, for the Mentally Retarded and Other Disabled Persons of Puerto Rico", and shall be placed at the disposal of the Secretary of the Family as paid in capital for the development of the activities thereof. All moneys under the control of the corporation shall be covered into the Treasury of Puerto Rico, to the credit of said Fund, to be drawn upon by the corporation against vouchers therefor. The corporation is hereby authorized to use the said Fund and any donation or benefits hereafter accrued, as a revolving fund for the development of industries for the blind, for the mentally retarded or for persons with other physical or mental handicaps which constitute obstacles to their occupational capacity and for other expenses inherent in the operation and development of said industries, including the payment of salaries and benefits to such blind and mentally retarded or to persons with other physical or mental handicaps which constitute obstacles to their occupational capacity, as well as the workmen's accident insurance.

**Section 3-A. — [Purchases by Government Agencies] — (18 L.P.R.A. § 1027)**

All departments, agencies and instrumentalities of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, including the municipalities, shall purchase, out of the resources available to them either directly or through the General Services Administration, as the case may be, for

the use of the services under their respective jurisdiction, such articles made by the corporation, known as "Industries for the Blind, for the Mentally Retarded and Other Disabled Persons of Puerto Rico", as may reasonably meet the specifications set for such purchase and those prices do not exceed the current market prices.

**Section 3-B. — Obligations shall not Constitute a Debt of the Commonwealth.. — (18 L.P.R.A. § 1027a)**

The obligations incurred by the corporation shall not constitute a debt of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, nor any of its municipalities or other political subdivisions, nor shall they be paid with funds other than those of the corporation.

**Section 4. — [Exemptions]. — (18 L.P.R.A. § 1028)**

The corporation is hereby empowered to make its purchases of supplies and equipment without the intervention of the General Services Administration, and the personnel of the corporation shall not be subject to Civil Service Laws.

**Section 5. — [Annual Report]. — (18 L.P.R.A. § 1029)**

The corporation shall make an annual report of its activities, business, and financial condition to the Governor and to the members of the Legislature of Puerto Rico.

**Section 6. — This Act shall take effect ninety days after its approval.**

**Note. This compilation was prepared by the Puerto Rico OMB staff who have striven to ensure it is complete and accurate. However, this is not an official compilation and may not be completely free of error. It contains all amendments incorporated for reading purposes only. For accuracy and exactitude please refer to the act original text. Compiled by the Office of Management and Budget Library.**