

**SENATE, No. 1958**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**213th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED JUNE 9, 2008

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY**

**District 3 (Salem, Cumberland and Gloucester)**

**Senator JEFF VAN DREW**

**District 1 (Cape May, Atlantic and Cumberland)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Concerns access to certain job training courses for employees affected by plant closings, mass layoffs or transfer of operations.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/17/2008)**

1 AN ACT concerning access to certain job training courses and  
2 amending P.L.1983, c.469 and P.L.1983, c.470.

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

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7 1. Section 2 of P.L.1983, c.469 (C.18A:64-13.2) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 2. Each public institution of higher education shall permit a  
10 person who has been in the labor market for at least two years and  
11 is unemployed or has received a layoff notice as a result of a factory  
12 or plant closing to enroll without payment of tuition in a job  
13 training course, provided that the person is not eligible for any  
14 available State or federal student financial aid and that available  
15 classroom space permits and that tuition paying students constitute  
16 the minimum number required for the course. In the case of an  
17 employee of an employer who has provided notification to the  
18 Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development pursuant to  
19 subsection a. of section 2 of P.L.2007, c.212 (C.34:21-2), that  
20 person shall be permitted to enroll without payment of tuition in a  
21 job training course regardless of any classroom space restrictions.  
22 Nothing herein shall preclude a public institution of higher  
23 education from requiring a registration fee not to exceed \$20.00 per  
24 academic term.

25 (cf: P.L.1992, c.45, s.2)

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27 2. Section 2 of P.L.1983, c.470 (C.18A:64A-23.2) is amended  
28 to read as follows:

29 2. Each county college shall permit a person who has been in  
30 the labor market for at least two years and is unemployed or has  
31 received a layoff notice as a result of a factory or plant closing to  
32 enroll without payment of tuition in a job training course, provided  
33 that the person is not eligible for any available State or federal  
34 student financial aid and that available classroom space permits and  
35 that tuition paying students constitute the minimum number  
36 required for the course. In the case of an employee of an employer  
37 who has provided notification to the Commissioner of Labor and  
38 Workforce Development pursuant to subsection a. of section 2 of  
39 P.L.2007, c.212 (C.34:21-2), that person shall be permitted to enroll  
40 without payment of tuition in a job training course regardless of any  
41 classroom space restrictions. Nothing herein shall preclude a  
42 county college from requiring a registration fee not to exceed  
43 \$20.00 per academic term.

44 (cf: P.L.1992, c.45, s.4)

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1       3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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6       This bill would amend current law to provide employees of  
7 employers subject to the “Millville Dallas Airmotive Plant Job Loss  
8 Notification Act,” P.L.2007, c.212 (C.34:21-1 et seq.), with  
9 increased opportunities to participate in job training at all public  
10 and county colleges in the State.

11       The “Millville Dallas Airmotive Plant Job Loss Notification  
12 Act,” requires prenotification, of at least 60 days, for certain  
13 anticipated plant closings and mass layoffs in order to provide the  
14 time needed to avoid closings of viable plants, and, if a closing is  
15 unavoidable, to help workers to utilize effectively the services  
16 needed to make a timely transition to new employment or  
17 occupations.

18       The act requires that any employer of 100 or more employees  
19 who conducts a plant closing or mass layoff resulting in the  
20 permanent layoff of 50 or more full-time employees in a 30 day  
21 period to provide a notice, not less than 60 days in advance of the  
22 closing or mass layoff, to the Commissioner of the Department of  
23 Labor and Workforce Development (department).

24       The act also established a response team in the department to  
25 provide counseling, referral and other appropriate services, as  
26 rapidly as possible, to workers who are subject to plant closings or  
27 mass layoffs covered by the act. The act requires an employer to  
28 provide access to employees so that the department’s team may  
29 carry out its responsibilities under the act.

30       The rapid response team offers the employees information,  
31 referral and counseling in three parts during the rapid response  
32 orientation: 1) an overview of the unemployment benefits so the  
33 employees know how to apply and can determine their amount of  
34 benefits; 2) information on what kind of re-employment services  
35 exist through the local One Stop Career Centers; and 3) retraining  
36 options for the eligible employees.

37       Among the retraining options are opportunities to participate in  
38 programs that provide for tuition or grants to pay for training such  
39 as vocational technical education or community college. One of the  
40 programs that allow for community college costs, the “tuition  
41 waiver program” currently restricts the number of available class  
42 slots for participants. This legislation seeks to end this limitation for  
43 those individuals affected by a plant closing, transfer of operations  
44 or mass layoff.